WEDNESDAY
December 3, 2025

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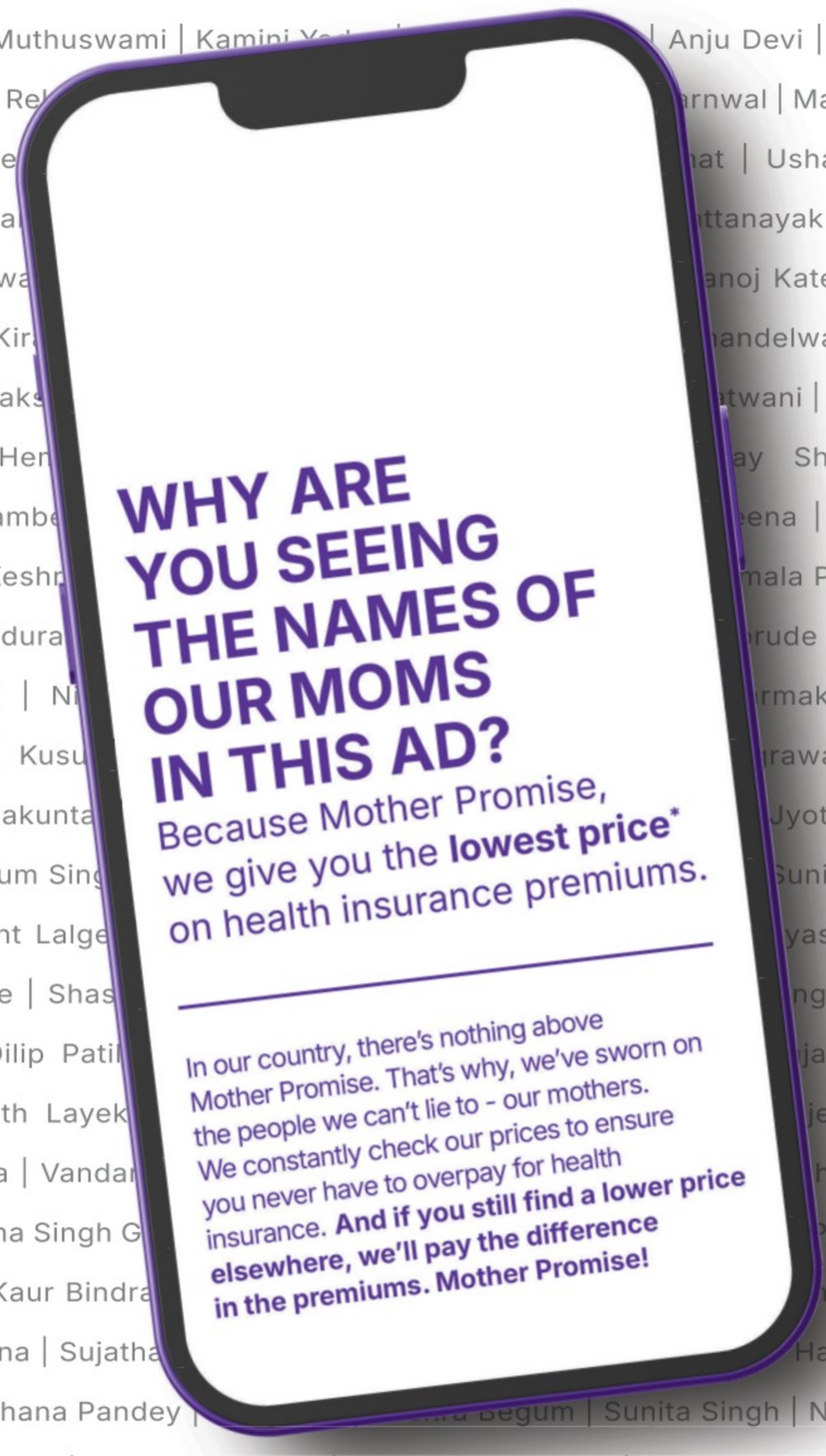

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MP FLAGS CRISIS

Over 2 lakh kirana stores closed down

SOUTH » PAGE 7

U.P. TOPS THE CHART

Over 17,000 complaints filed about Jal Jeevan projects

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CYCLONE IN SRI LANKA

'India took leading role in relief efforts'

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DATA POINT

Delhi's pollution peaks even as farm fires drop

Local sources remain the key reason for crisis

OPINION » PAGE 9

SECOND ODI TODAY

India looks to seal the series against SA

SPORT » PAGE 15

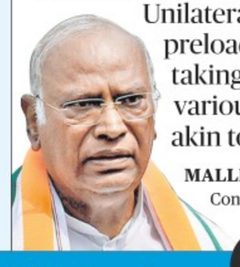
DoT order to 'pre-install' govt. app triggers storm

Opposition leaders question the Centre's unilateral decision and term it as yet 'another BIG BOSS surveillance moment'; the order implies that users would not be able to uninstall Sanchar Saathi

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

"There is no snooping or call monitoring... If you don't want the app, don't activate it. If you do want it on your phone, keep it. If you want to delete it, delete it

JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA
Union Communications Minister



"...[this] is yet another attempt by the BJP to strangulate the voice of the people... Unilateral directions to preload this app without taking into confidence various stakeholders is akin to dictatorship

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE
Congress chief

"The app has so far helped detect and disconnect about 1.75 crore fraudulent mobile connections, trace close to 26 lakh stolen/missing phones, and recover 7.5 lakh phones

SAMBIT PATRA, BJP spokesperson

The Union government's mandate on Monday for smartphone makers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app sparked backlash from the Opposition and from digital rights activists. Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge wrote on X that "unilateral directions to preload this app without taking into confidence various stakeholders and citizens is akin to dictatorship", and that the app was "yet another addition to the long list of attempts by the BJP to strangulate the voice of the people".

Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi from the Shiv Sena (UBT), reacting to Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia's assurance on Tuesday that the app can be deleted if users wished, said, "When you say 'mandated' in your notification, when you are asking every mobile manufacturer to preload a government app, it then comes preloaded on every phone. So it is absolutely ridiculous [to say] that you can voluntarily download or delete the app."

CPI(M) leader and Rajya Sabha MP John Brittas wrote in a letter to Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia that "compulsory pre-installation, even if deletion is later permitted, undermines the very principle of informed consent and transforms the mobile phone into a potential instrument of continuous digital supervision".

Sanchar Saathi is an app that the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) launched initially as a website in 2023 to allow users to flag fraudulent phone calls. The app also integrates other tools the DoT has launched in the past, such as a feature to check the "genuineness" of the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number assigned to a device, and to block a stolen phone by barring telecom operators from working on a blacklisted IMEI.

Mandating the Sanchar Saathi app to be installed, as the DoT did in an order to phone makers on Monday, would likely mean that users wouldn't be able to uninstall it, as is the case for private apps pre-installed on many smartphone brands' devices.

Some worried about the potential for a pre-installed app like this to be used as a carrier for malware and spyware. Anand Venkatanarayanan, co-founder of DeepStrat, a policy and cybersecurity consultancy, said on X that a "Regulator as a Malware operator is quite a thing in India", as "[o]nce you get root in OS layer by a govt app, an Over the air update is all it takes to get more permissions".

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MORE REPORTS ON » PAGE 10

Kerala's SIR plea is fair, EC should look into it, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday found the concerted pleas of the Kerala government, political parties, and public representatives to extend the enumeration phase of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the State by at least a week beyond December 13 entirely "just and fair", and worthy of "due consideration" by the Election Commission.

A Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India Surya Kant directed Kerala to make a representation, if not already made, with the EC, detailing its reasons for seeking an extension. The representation should be filed with the EC by December 3. The court urged the EC to consider the representation "sympathetically and objectively" in the next two days.

The Bench, also comprising Justice Joymalya Bagchi, took into consideration the submissions that the elections, essential for grassroots democracy, should be allowed to be held without any hitch.

Kerala is on the cusp of elections to its 1,200 local self-government institutions made up of 941 gram panchayats, 152 block panchayats, 14 district panchayats, 87 municipalities, and six corporations. There are a total of 23,612 wards heading for polls in the State.

The EC had recently extended the deadline for completing the enumeration stage from December 4 to December 11 amidst reports of booth-level officers wilting under the "overwhelming pressure" of work, with some even losing their lives.

Kerala's appeal

The Kerala government outlined the reasons why it sought the postponement of the enumeration phase of SIR

1. The simultaneous conduct of the SIR and election to the local self-government institutions (LSGI) is a "near impossibility"
2. The constitutional mandate under Articles 243-E and 243-U, as well as a statutory mandate under Section 38 of the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act and Section 94 of the Kerala Municipality Act, require election to the LSGIs within five years
3. The process of elections — voting, counting and declaration of result — must be, in accordance with the mandate, completed before December 21, 2025

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PETITIONER'S CHALLENGE » PAGE 10

NEARBY

All is well, say Siddaramaiah, Shivakumar

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar, who held a breakfast meeting on Tuesday at the latter's residence, once again sought to demonstrate that they are united and have no differences. » PAGE 6

HC quashes complaint against George, 2 officials

BENGALURU
The High Court quashed criminal proceedings against Energy Minister K.J. George and two officials on a complaint alleging corruption in awarding tender to supply smart meters at an exorbitant price. » PAGE 6

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 3

Apex court stays POCSO trial against Yediyurappa

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday froze the trial proceedings against former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa in a case booked under the POCSO Act.

Besides staying the trial proceedings, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant issued notice to the State CID to respond to why the case against Mr. Yediyurappa ought not to be remanded to the Karnataka High Court for a fresh consideration on merits.

Mr. Yediyurappa, represented by Siddharth Luthra and Siddharth Dave, submitted that the High Court had refused to quash the case against their client on November 13 merely on a vague and technical ground that it cannot look into the merits of the matter. Mr. Luthra submitted that Mr. Yediyurappa was a four-time Chief Minister and an 88-year-old man. He said none have backed the allegation of sexual assault against Mr. Yediyurappa.

The victim's mother had claimed that the BJP leader had sexually assaulted her and then her 17-year-old daughter during a meeting in February last year at his residence in Bengaluru.

FIDE

We should use the Olympic bid and the Games as a catalyst for developing sport in India

Beijing Games gold medallist Abhinav Bindra dwells on the beneficial fallout of the mega quadrennial extravaganza, the growth and popularity of shooting and chess, handling pressure, self-respect and belief, hard work and parents' role in moulding aspiring sportspersons

INTERVIEW

Abhinav Bindra

P.K. Ajith Kumar

After shooting down India's first ever individual Olympic gold medal, back in 2008 at Beijing, Abhinav Bindra continues to be associated closely with sports. He is the founder of the Abhinav Bindra Foundation, a non-profit organisation that strives to take Indian sport forward.

Bindra was in Arpora, Goa, recently to make the ceremonial opening move of the Chess World Cup final between Wei Yi and Javokhir Sindarov. Before that, he spoke to reporters on various topics in sport. Excerpts:

On shooting and chess

It is nice to be in Goa at a chess tournament and that too at the World Cup. I have never really been to a chess championship ever in person. I follow chess a little bit here and there but I follow the players more than the actual games.

I don't play chess myself. I think I just don't have the acumen to play it. But delighted to be here, nice to see an event of this significance being held in Goa, compliments to the All India Chess Federation for organising it, to the Goa government for welcoming all the players and hosting

Both chess and shooting require a great amount of mental strength. India has done really well consistently in both the games. Of course, chess has grown in a great way.

The fan following of chess has grown tremendously, I would like to compliment all these (online) platforms that have come up which have really taken the sport to the people. What I find very fascinating in chess is that people actually follow the game.

It is one of the rarest sports across the world in which people are actually tuning in to follow the game. Normally, you have fans that follow their favourite player or their favourite team.

My own sport, shooting, of course, has done well over the period of many years. I think it has grown tremendously. If you just look at the participation in sport and the constant new talent that keeps cropping up, the depth of talent that exists in the sport of shooting is pretty unique.

Shooting like chess can be lonely. But for me, my biggest constant companion in this journey was actually self-doubt. So I tried very hard to try and overcome it and to get the self-belief and confidence normally associated with athletes.

I worked with a lot of psychologists and trainers, and wasted a hell of a lot of money on them, but really never was able to get a breakthrough, with them at least.

But I did have a breakthrough, and my breakthrough came in two parts. When I first started accepting pressure, I started accepting the expectations around my journey. So there was a time and day when I said, okay, this is never going to go away. I will just have to learn how to coexist with it. So that shift in mindset of letting go and just simply coexisting with the pressure, coexisting with the expectation around it was very powerful because it just then became kind of background noise.

The second part was that instead of chasing the self-belief that I didn't have, I started chasing self-respect. And that again was very powerful. How did I get self-respect? It was simply by showing up every day, by working hard every day and then trying to be better than what I was yesterday.

On India bidding for the 2036 Olympic Games

I think there is no doubt about it that the Olympic Games will come to India. It is only a matter of time. It is a good thing that we are bidding and we are going on that journey.

If we win, it will be fantastic, but even if we don't, sport must win and sport must go forward. We are already seeing signs of that happening. For instance, the sports governance bill has come into play.

I believe that the next decade will also be a decade for sport in this country, and it will develop more. We are seeing that our youth population, which is such a large demographic, the consumption of sport, whether people are enjoying sports, just watching as spectators or actively participating in it, that number is rising. I would like to see more of that from our 1.4 billion people.

When children get more opportunities in schools just to experience sport, they will become healthier and to imbibe values through sport. When these opportunities increase, automatically the by-product will be that participation in elite sport will also increase.

The shortest way to success is hard work. So I would like to tell all athletes that you have to put your best foot forward, keep working hard.

The Olympic Games, for me, don't come once every four years. They come every day. Every day you have to put in your best show to try and get better than what you were yesterday.

FILE PHOTO

On India getting ready to be the host of the Olympics and not being a consistent medal winner at the Games

I think it is no secret that you have to work on both aspects parallelly. You already know that a lot of work has happened in the course of the last few years to really give elite athletes a lot of support. That is being done at a really good level. But of course, we would like to see more athletes win medals. Especially if you are hosting an Olympic Games in your own country, you would like to see your own athletes do well.

And there has to be work done. I think we have to use the Olympic bid and the Olympic Games as an opportunity for development. We don't want the Olympic Games to be just two weeks of sporting extravaganza or the ten days or two weeks of the Paralympics as a sporting extravaganza.

We really should use the Games as a catalyst for change, for developing sport at different levels. Whether it be the school level, whether it be grassroot community sport, whether to make this country healthier, to make this country active, to really imbibe sport into the fabric of our society.

On keeping motivation after scaling the peak in one's sport, like he did after winning the Olympic gold

It is very normal for athletes, after having massive success, to have a period of motivation loss or just a quiet period. It is just normal and it is just a cycle every athlete faces.

I think the most important thing is to just go back to your basics, to go back to your foundation, to go back to the drawing board and then to really know you have reached a mountain and you have climbed this peak. And human nature really is that we want to jump to the next peak. But you simply can't jump to the next peak.

You have to climb that peak down and then step-by-step, plug the gaps that have cropped in and then work on the foundation and go back again. All of this requires an immense amount of energy. And sometimes, you know, after having achieved such high success, you are a little bit drained.

It is human to be drained, not just physically, mentally, emotionally. And it sometimes just takes a little while to really get your batteries completely recharged, and full so that you can start thinking really clearly on what your next goal is. And that really helps you get to it.

Because again, the unfortunate reality in sport for an athlete is that yesterday never counts. You are only as good as what you are on that particular day. You win and then the very next day the world is asking for more proof if you are good enough.

Good enough to what you were yesterday, good enough to what will you be up to the next challenger. But that is what we have to face and that is what every athlete has to undergo. But I think as long as you continue to find joy in what you're doing and keep putting in the right effort day in and day out, I am sure the success will come back.

On parental support in individual sport

I think parents are always the unsung heroes of a sporting journey. That contribution they make is immense.

My parents supported me materially, to provide me the facilities I needed, because, at that point of time in India, in the mid-90s, when I started shooting, it was under a mango tree.

There were no shooting ranges. So it was a different era. But their biggest contribution was that my parents allowed me to make my mistakes.

From a very young age, I had to own my successes and I had to own my failures. And that was something very, very important.

One thing is common in every sport: when that final moment comes, when it is deciding whether you are going to be the best on top of the world or not, you are going to be alone. And you have to find that courage and that strength and that conviction to succeed from within yourself. And that can only happen when you go through this process. So my biggest contribution that my parents made was they gave me a lot of space to make my mistakes, to make my own decisions. And that was something very valuable.

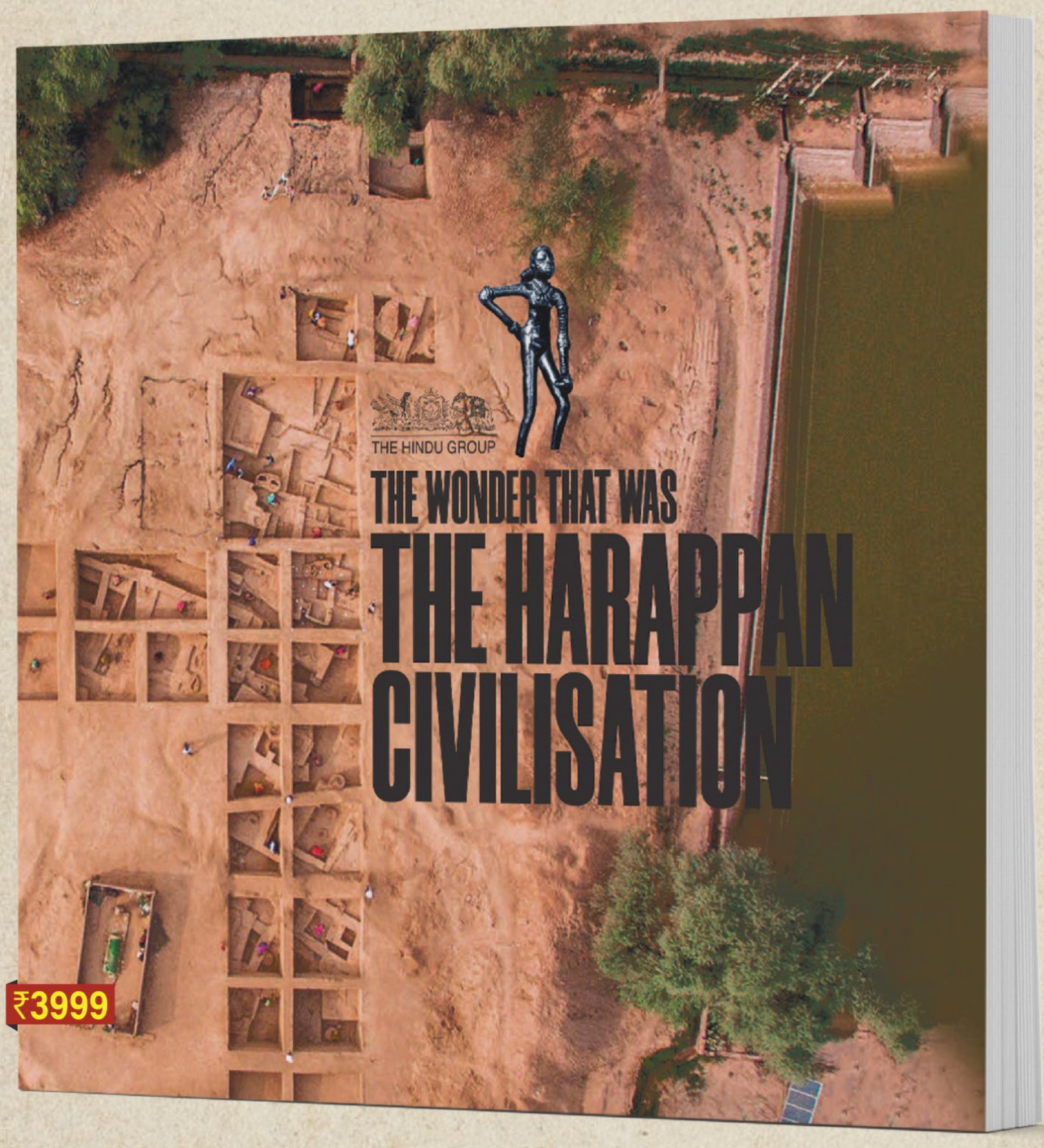
And of course, they were always very positive as well. As an athlete, every athlete goes through ups and downs. I had many downs, mostly downs, than ups.

NEW ARRIVAL

THE HINDU GROUP

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

The Hindu marks the centenary of the announcement of the discovery of the Indus Civilisation with a new edition of the book 'The Wonder that was the Harappan Civilisation'. The book has a bonanza of photographs and 48 extra pages, featuring interviews with Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, Y S Rawat, scholars R S Bisht and Asko Parpola. There are new stories on the excavations at Karanpura and Padka Bet, both Harappan sites in India. A treasure to own.



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Electric tractor expo tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An "Electric Tractor Expo and Krishi Samvada (Agri Dialogue)" will be held on Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of Horticultural Sciences, near the GKVK campus back gate, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru.

It is promoted as India's first electric tractor fair aimed at advancing sustainable farm mechanisation.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 03		
RISE	06:27	SET 17:52
RISE	16:13	SET 04:23
THURSDAY, DEC. 04		
RISE	06:27	SET 17:52
RISE	17:11	SET 05:30
FRIDAY, DEC. 05		
RISE	06:28	SET 17:52
RISE	18:16	SET 06:39

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	27	23
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	23	18

Bengaluru Today
23ºC The weather will be pleasant. Night will be slight cool and hazy. Chances of ight rain and thundershower.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
25ºC The weather will be pleasant. Night will be slight cool. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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New passenger pick-up rules at KIA from December 8

The enhanced measures are expected to streamline passenger movement, reduce congestion, and improve safety, discipline, and overall convenience at arrival areas

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport serves approximately 130,000 passengers every day. FILE PHOTO

A new lane segregation system at the pick-up zone in front of the Kempegowda International Airport's (KIA) two terminals will come into effect on December 8.

The enhanced pick-up measures will be introduced to streamline passenger movement, reduce congestion, and improve safety, discipline, and overall convenience at arrival areas at the airport.

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which operates the KIA, India's third-largest airport, said that the airport serves approximately 1,30,000 passengers every day. A daily volume of roughly 1 lakh vehicles traversing the airport's road network places significant strain on its landside facilities, particularly the kerbside (drop-off and pick-up lanes) in front of the terminals.

In response, BIAL is reviewing and refining its processes to enhance the passenger experience, ease congestion, and align with evolving needs and safety standards.

According to BIAL, prolonged waiting by private cars and cabs creates artificial congestion, hindering traffic flow and inconveniencing passengers and drivers. To address this and to improve the passenger experience, BIAL is introducing a lane segregation system to enforce discipline, prevent unauthorised parking, and reduce dwell times. This is expected to ease kerbside congestion and deter the misuse of the pick-up zone in front of the terminals

As per the new lane segregation system, entry to the designated arrival pick-up zone in T1 and T2 will be free for all private cars (white board). However, there will be a charge for misusing or overstaying inside the zone beyond the prescribed time limits.

"The airport will give eight minutes (much higher than international standards) of free use of the zone for all the users beyond which there will be ₹150/- charges for overstay from 8-13 minutes, and ₹300/- charges for 13-18 minutes. Any vehicle overstaying beyond 18 minutes will be towed to the nearest police station, and applicable fines and towing charges will be levied," BIAL stated.

All commercial vehicles, including yellow-board taxis and electric cabs, are required to wait for passengers only at the designated parking zones. To facilitate a seamless pick-up experience, the first 10 minutes of parking will be complimentary. Commercial vehicles arriving at Terminal 1 should proceed to the P4 and P3 parking zones, while those serving Terminal 2 are directed to the P2 parking zone.

Flights disrupted due to technical and operational reasons

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three Air India Express flights were delayed for more than an hour. PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE

There were flight disruptions at the Kempegowda International Airport on Tuesday owing to technical and operational reasons.

Airport officials said that three Air India Express flights were delayed for more than an hour and a few IndiGo flights were also delayed owing to operational reasons.

Returned to bay

"Three of our flights departing from Bengaluru today were delayed by approximately 1 to 1.5 hours after the flight crew elected to return to the bay as a precautionary safety measure, in line with standard operating procedures. All aircraft were inspected by our engineering teams and cleared for operations after the necessary checks were completed. We regret the inconvenience... Safety remains our highest priority, and we are committed to upholding the strongest operational and engineering standards," said an Air India Express spokesperson.

IndiGo did not respond to queries on the delay.

Another IndiGo flight was diverted to Bengaluru owing to bad weather conditions in Hyderabad.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client negotiated and is intending to purchase the Property more vividly described in the Schedule, hereinafter referred to as the Schedule Property, from its lawful owners, Mrs. NAJAMUNNISSA BILQUIES W/o Iftekaruddin Ahmed Age:78 years R/at No.182, Vivekanagar Layout, Bengaluru-560047.

Any persons / institutions claiming to have any right, title interest, charges, lien mortgage, or any other claim/objection whatsoever over the Schedule Property may lodge his/her/their/its claim/objection to the undersigned with documentary proof **within Seven (7) days** of this publication, failing which it will be presumed that there are no objections or claim or disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and my client shall proceed with the transaction so as to get the Schedule Property conveyed in his/her their favour. No such claims thereafter shall be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing Site No.182, having BBMP E Asthi PID No.71-9-182 situated at Sonnenahalli, Vivekanagar Post, Bengaluru-560047, within the limits of BBMP Ward No.115 Vannarpet, measuring East to West: 60 feet and North to South: 40 feet, totally measuring 2400 square feet along with 13.0.0642 square meter in ground floor and 130.0642 square meter in First Floor with RCC roof building, built with wooden doors and windows along with Mosaic flooring consisting of living room, bed room with Kitchen with all civic amenities bounded on the: East by : Road, **West by :** Property No.167, **North by :** Property No.183, **South by :** Property No.181.

MOHAMMED AYUB ALI, Advocate
No.144, 6th Cross, K.E.B. Layout,
Sanjaynagar, Bangalore - 560094.
Mob: 9886019619, 9160768456
9343727928

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General public that **Alluri Narendra Varma, s/o. Lakshmipathi Raju Alluri,** and **Mudundi Anusanthi, w/o. Alluri Narendra Varma,** R/at No. 429/82, Ground Floor, 8th Main, 18th Cross, N.S. Palya, BTM Layout, 2nd Stage, BANGALORE- 560 100, is the full & absolute owner of the Site bearing No. 175, of Chikka Thoguru Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, which is morefully described in the schedule below, having purchased from K. Nagaraj & others under Sale Deed dated 21/06/2019 registered as Document No. BMH-1-02715/2019-20 of Book – I stored in C.D. No. BMHD932 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore.

It is further notified to the general public that the earlier Deed of Absolute Sale dated 04/12/1995, executed by Govinda Reddy & others represented by their GPA Holder/S. Venkatesh, in favour of Sudheendra Harwalkar, registered as Document No. 7976/1995-96 of Book – I in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, is lost/missing. A Police complaint in this regard was also lodged with the Jurisdictional Police/Bangalore City vide Lost Report No. 003317/2019 dated 06/01/2019. It is hereby requested that if any person/s comes across or finds the same, they are requested to hand over the same to the below-mentioned address & they will be compensated accordingly.

It is also notified that G. Harshavardhan Reddy and Komma Swathi are intending to purchase the scheduled property by availing a Housing Loan from LIC Housing Finance Ltd.

The General Public is hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule Property with any person/s based on the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk & cost and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property, and in such an event, they have no claim of whatsoever nature against Alluri Narendra Varma and Mudundi Anusanthi, nor the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Site bearing **No. 175,** Assessment No. 20, V.P. Katha No. 283, Situated at **Chikka Thoguru Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** Measuring East to West **30 feet** and North to South **40 feet**, totally measuring **1200 square feet,** and bounded on: -

East by : Property bearing Site No. 176; West by : Property bearing Site No. 174; North by : Road and; South by : Property bearing Site No. 170:

Shri. G.N. HARISH, Advocate,
Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross,
VI Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 070
Dated : 03/12/2025 Place : Bengaluru

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Regional Office : 2254, Kousalya, 3rd Floor, Vinoba Road, Mysuru-570005

E-AUCTION NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of **Union Bank of India** (secured Creditor) will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is basis"** on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder.

Ramapura Branch Ramapura Gramapanchayathi, Ramapura – 562160, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara Dist Ph: 9494598880, Mail Id: ubin0918407@unionbankofindia.bank.in

1. Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-applicant And Guarantor: 1) Mr. Yelle Gowda, Ramapura Village And Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara-562160
2) Mrs. Shashi, Ramapura Village And Post, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara – 562160
Amount due : Rs. 6,51,429-00 as on 31-10-2025 with further interest, cost & expenses.
Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: All The Part And Parcel Of Residential House In The Name Of **Smt Shashi,** Bearing Property / Khaneshumari No. 256/184, Ramapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. **Measuring East - West : 22 Feet, North - South : 43.5 Feet, Total: 957 Square feet. Bounded On The East:** Road, **West:** House Of Pyasegowda, **North:** Mairgowda's Malavaiah Vacant Space, **South:** Houses Of Puttamma.

Reserve Price :
Rs. 13,85,505-00 (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Five Hundred and Five Only)
Earnest Money To Be Deposited :
Rs. 1,38,551-00 (Rupees One Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty One Only)

Mylanayakana Hosahalli Branch, Bevoor Road, Opposite Govt Middle School, Mylanayakanahosahalli Village, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara District-562160. Contact no: - 7780582212, Mail Id: ubin0918814@unionbankofindia.bank.in

2. Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-applicant And Guarantor: 1) Mrs. Gowramma W/o Nanjegowda, Thowtanahalli , H-Mogenhalli Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramangara – 562108
2) Mr. Nanjegowda S/o Kenchegowda, Thowtanahalli, H-Mogenhalli Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara – 562108
3) Mr. Vishkantaiah T N, S/o Nanjegowda, Thowtanahalli, H-Mogenhalli Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara – 562108
4) Mr. Chandan T N, S/o Nanjegowda, Thowtanahalli, H-Mogenhalli Post, Channapatna Tq, Ramanagara – 562108
Amount due : Rs. 16,94,345-00 as on 31-10-2025 with further interest, cost & expenses.
Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: All The Part And Parcel Of The Residential House In The Name Of **Mr. Nanjegowda & Gowramma.** Bearing Katha No. 37/36, Unique No 152900100800700040, Thowtanahalli Village, Byadarahalli Grampanchayath, Maluru Hobli, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara. **Measuring East - West: 20 feet, North - South: 33 feet Total 660 square feet, Bounded By East:** 6 feet Passage, **West:** 2 feet Passage, **North:** Own Property & Then 20 CC Road, **South:** Private Property.

Reserve Price :
Rs. 14,92,952-00 (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Ninety Two Thousand Nine Hundred And Fifty Two Only)
Earnest Money To Be Deposited :
Rs. 1,49,296-00 (Rupees One Lakhs Forty Nine Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Six Only)

Kanakapura M G Road Branch, Opp Govt Maternity Hospital, Main Road, Kanakapura Ramanagara - 562117 Contact No: 9913265424, Mail Id: ubin0911747@unionbankofindia.bank.in

3. Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-applicant And Guarantor: 1) Mr. Kumar S/o Puttanna, No. 3032/2122, No. 3031A/2121A, 1st Cross, Vivekananda Nagara, Kanakapura – 562117
2) Mrs. Ramya W/o Kumar No. 3032/2122, No. 3031A/2121A, 1st Cross, Vivekananda Nagara, Kanakapura – 562117
Amount due : Rs. 7,42,154-00 as on 31-10-2025 with further interest, cost & expenses
Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold : All The Part And Parcel Of The Residential House In The Name Of **Mr. Kumar,** Bearing Khatha No. 3032/2122, Khatha No 3031A/2121A, Near Sri Ganesh Temple, CMC Ward No 09, 1st Street, Vivekananda Nagara, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara Dist, **Measuring For Khatha No. 3032/2122: East - West : 10 feet & North - South : 30 feet, For Katha No 3032/2122 East - West : 10 feet, North - South : 30 feet, Total (300+300) = 600 square feet,** Bounded By For **Katha No. 3032/2122 East :** Property Of Mr. Rajanna, **West :** Property Of Mr. Rajanna, **North:** Property of Mr. Mahesh, **South:** Road, For Khatha No. 3031/A/2121A, **East:** Prop Of Mr. Kumar, **West:** Property Of Mr. Mariyanna, **North :** Remaining Portion Of Rajanna, **South :** Road.

Reserve Price :
Rs. 12,51,693-00 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety Three Only)
Earnest Money To Be Deposited :
Rs. 1,25,169-00 (Rupees One Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand One Hundred And Sixty Nine Only)

4. Name And Address Of The Borrower, Co-applicant And Guarantor: 1) M/s. R.R. Polypets, Proprietor : Ashwini S. Gadasahalli Village, Shivanahalli Post, Kanakapura – 562117.
2) Mrs. Ashwini, W/o Chandru, Krishnapura Village, Garakahalli, Channapatna – 562138.
3) Mrs. Parvathi W/o Anand M N, # 303, 4th Cross, SSA Road, Kunthi Grama, 4th Block, Cholanayakanahalli, Bengaluru – 560032
Amount due : Rs. 17,69,046 as on 31-10-2025 with further interest, cost & expenses
Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold : All The Part And Parcel Of Vacant Site In The Name Of Mrs. Parvathi N, Bearing Katha No. 388/33, Property No. 152900202800820355, Shivanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Kanakapura Tq, Ramanagara – 562117, **Measuring East-West : 30 Feet, North - South : 40 feet, Total 1200 Square feet, Bounded On The East:** Site No.32, **West:** Site No 34, **North:** Site No 94, **South:** Road.

Reserve Price :
Rs. 16,98,300-00 (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Ninety Eight Thousand and Three Hundred Only)
Earnest Money To Be Deposited :
Rs. 1,69,830-00 (Rupees One Lakhs Sixty nine Thousand Eight Hundred and thirty Only)

Date and time of E Auction : Date : 19-12-2025 From 12.00 PM to 5.00 PM (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
Last date for submission of EMD : On or before the commencement of e-Auction.
E-auction website: https://baanknet.com

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale and registration and login and bidding rules visit : please refer to the link provided : https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx and www.unionbankofindia.co.in

Date : 03-12-2025
Place : Mysuru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1). Smt. N. Radha D/o. Late. K. Narayana Reddy, 2). Sri. N. Jayaram Reddy S/o. Late. K. Narayana Reddy, 3). Sri N. Keshava Reddy S/o. Late. K. Narayana Reddy, 4). Smt. T. Geetha W/o. Late. N. Sreenivasa Reddy, 5). Sri. S. Uttkarsh Reddy S/o. Late. N. Sreenivasa Reddy and 6). Smt. S. Ekta D/o. Late. N. Sreenivasa Reddy are the absolute owners and in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the entire 'A' Block building / Commercial building having 11682.99 square meters (125767 square feet) of super built-up area and Basement (Parking with provision for mechanical parking) 4128.54 Square meters of super built-up area, with notionally sub divided plot admeasuring 4046.46 square meters (43560 square feet) of land in the converted properties bearing (1) Survey No. 85/1, measuring 1 Acre 33 Guntas of land along with 4 Guntas of Kharab land and (2) Survey No. 85/2, measuring 1 Acre 1 Gunta of land, in all measuring 2 Acres 38 Guntas of land (including 4 Guntas of Kharab land), having Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Clubbed Khatha No. 1040, situated at Panathur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, presently having E-Pid No. 2381556373, Property bearing No. 4087/1040/85/1/85/2/14.

The following original documents which are related to the aforesaid property have been misplaced by their father Late. Sri. K. Narayana Reddy S/o. Kaverappa during his life time.

1) Sale deed dated 22/10/1981 registered as Document No. 4101/1981-82, Book 1, Volume 1738, Pages 180 to 182, with the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk.
2) Sale deed dated 06/01/1960 registered as Document No. 4559/1959-60, Book 1, Volume 121, Pages 224 to 225, with the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk.
3) Mortgage deed dated 22/04/1967 registered as Document No. 253/1967-68, Book 1, with the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk..
4) No due Certificate dated 06/06/2008, issued by the Panathur Vyavasaya Seva Sahakara Bank Niyamitha, in favour of K. Narayana Reddy.
5) Sale deed dated 30/05/2005 registered as Document No. 3648/2005-06, Book - 1, stored in CD No. BASD169, with the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk.
6) Joint Development Agreement dated 30/11/2006 registered as Document No. 22941/2006-07, Book - I, stored in CD No. BASD291, with the Sub Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk.
7) General Power of Attorney dated 30/11/2006 registered as Document No. 898/2006-07, Book 4, stored in CD No. BASD291, with the Sub Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk.
8) Cancellation deed dated 04/02/2011 registered as Document No. 7094/2010-11, Book I, stored in CD No. VRTD95, with the Sub Registrar, Varthur, Bangalore.
9) Cancellation of Power of attorney registered as Document No. 508/2010-11, Book 4, stored in CD No. VRTD95, with the Sub Registrar, Varthur, Bangalore.
10) Duplicate copy of the Joint Development Agreement dated 04/02/2011 registered as Document No. 7097/2010-11, Book II, stored in CD No. VRTD95, with the Sub Registrar, Varthur, Bangalore.

Present owners are not aware of the whereabouts of the said documents and the said documents could not be traced even against their best efforts. The present owners have lodged a complaint with the Marathalli Police Station, Bengaluru regarding the same. The said documents have not been traced after all possible efforts. I hereby request the finder of said documents to deliver the same to me at the address stated below. Any person acting upon the aforesaid documents to transact in respect of the aforesaid property will do so at their own risk and any transaction without the present owners consent will not bind the present owners.

Sd/- Sri. N. JAYARAM REDDY,
S/o. Late. K. Narayana Reddy, Residing at No. 18, 9th Cross, RJS College Road, Kaverappa Layout, Marathalli, Bengaluru-560037.

Government of India
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Applications are invited for filling up the following posts in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology:

SL.No.	Name of the Post	No. of vacancies	Mode of Recruitment
1.	Executive Engineer (Civil)	01	On deputation
2.	Deputy Director (Official Language)	01	On deputation

Eligibility Conditions for the post of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL):
Post : Executive Engineer (Civil) (Group 'A'-Gazetted) (Ministerial)
Number of Post : 01 (One)
Pay Scale : Level-11 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 67,700 – 2,08,700)

DEPUTATION:

i. Holding analogous post on regular basis in the Ministry/Department,
OR
ii. Assistant Engineer (Civil) in PB-2, Rs 9300–34800 plus Grade Pay Rs. 4600 with seven years regular service in the grade.

Note 1: Period of deputation including period of deputation in another ex-cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or other organisation/department of the Central Govt. shall ordinarily not exceed three years.

Note 2: The maximum age limit for appointment on deputation (including short-term contract) shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.

For Ex-Servicemen: The Armed Forces personnel due to retire or who are to be transferred to reserve within a period of one year and having the requisite experience and qualifications prescribed shall also be considered. Such persons shall be given deputation terms up to the date on which they are due for release from the Armed Forces, thereafter they may be considered on re-employment.

Eligibility Conditions for the post of **Deputy Director (Official Language):
Post : Deputy Director (OL) (Group 'A'-Gazetted)(Ministerial)
Number of Post : 01 (One)
Pay Scale : Level-11 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 67,700–2,08,700)

DEPUTATION:
Officers from the Central Government or State Governments or Union territory Administration or Public Sector Undertakings or Autonomous bodies:
(a) (i) holding analogous posts on regular basis in parent cadre or Department;
OR
(ii) with five years regular service in Level -10 in the pay matrix (Rs. 56,100–1,77,500);
AND
(b) possessing the educational qualifications and experience prescribed for direct recruits as mentioned in the detailed advertisement placed on Ministry's website www.melty.gov.in and DoP&T's website www.dopt.gov.in.

Age Limit: 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.

For application format, eligibility conditions, requisite qualifications, pay and allowances, and other details, log on to Ministry's website www.melty.gov.in and DoP&T's website www.dopt.gov.in.

Application duly prepared in the prescribed proforma should reach Deputy Secretary (Personnel), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110003, **within 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News.**

cbc06101/11/0013/2526

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS MEET HELD

DPSBN Cambridge hosted 'Virtus 2025', their inaugural inter-school sports meet, marked by enthusiastic participation from students in Grades 1–12. Competitions in athletics, football, and basketball highlighted teamwork, sportsmanship, and camaraderie, with energetic performances and vibrant displays creating an exciting and engaging sporting experience for all involved.

QUIZ TRIUMPH AT INTER-SCHOOL EVENT

East West Public School, Subramanyanagar reported impressive results at 'India Jano', a quiz competition organised by the Rotary Clubs, where 38 teams from various schools participated. Both school teams advanced to the final six. The team of Anupama C H, Nayana G, and Yashwanth K S secured the position of second runners-up, marking a proud achievement for the school.

TRIENNIAL SPORTS MEET CONCLUDED

Holy Spirit School & PU College, Bengaluru concluded their Triennial Sports Meet 'UDAAN 2025', held under the theme "Empowering Healthy Strides." The Closing Ceremony featured Padma Shri awardee Mr. Shekhar Naik, former Captain of the Indian Blind Cricket Team, as Chief Guest, whose inspiring journey resonated with the audience. Dignitaries present included Sr. Ida Lobo, Sr. Theresa Rebello, Sr. Sarita, Ms. Limna Justine, and Mr. Jesuraj. The event highlighted sportsmanship, leadership, humility, and the collective spirit of the school community.

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai: Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

Some call the Kosi the 'river of sorrow' because of the debilitating effects of its floods. PTI

How the river Kosi's shifting course exposes the perils of embankments

Do concrete embankments protect against floods from rivers such as the Kosi, or are their very walls making the plains more vulnerable? Floods without embankments are milder; the alternative may be to learn to live with floods, as the U.S. has done, where embankments have been removed

M. Rupa Rasagna

In August 2008, Bihar experienced one of the worst floods in nearly five decades when the Kosi River breached its embankment at Kusaha in Sunsari district of Nepal, killing more than 400 people and displacing thousands. A staggering 33 lakh people were affected at the peak of the flood in Bihar.

Indeed, the Kosi river breaches the walls of its embankment every few years, imperilling lives and livelihoods, and earning it the name 'river of sorrow.'

In the eastern Gangetic plains and the adjoining floodplains, rivers have overflowed during the monsoons for centuries, causing catastrophic floods. The Kosi originates in Tibet and Nepal and later joins the Ganga in Bihar. Often called "*sapta* Kosi" because of its seven tributaries, it is a fragile and dynamic river that naturally carries large quantities of sediment. Over the years, the river has shifted its course by several kilometres, subsequently triggering floods.

Committee report

According to a report of the People's Commission on the Kosi Basin, an independent commission, the river has moved 120 km westwards in the last 250 years due to a heavy natural sedimentation process. Experts suggest the construction of a barrage in Nepal in the 1950s, followed by an embankment in Bihar, has significantly altered the river's natural flow.

Embankments are artificial structures made of earth, stone or concrete, designed to control water flow in flood-prone areas.

These structures are made to endure the effects of gravity, water pressure, and other external forces and are expected to remain stable over time. While they are often promoted as an ideal solution to protect settlements and enhance agriculture, experts have long warned of their limitations.

In 1951, the G.R. Garg Committee report of the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission warned against such projects. It was appointed after Assam decided to build an embankment, hoping to prevent floods during the monsoon.

The report observed that the two main functions of a river – providing land (by eroding and depositing) and draining its basin – are disrupted by embankments. It further cautioned that these structures are useful only when the river carries less silt; otherwise they could do more harm than good.

Rather than pay heed to these warnings, however, the Assam government proceeded with building embankments along the Brahmaputra river. While the idea was simple – to prevent floods – its effects were counterproductive. In Assam, particularly, coarse silt and sand were deposited by rivers on the banks, affecting agriculture. Local communities lived in constant fear of a breach. Siltation reduced the river's depth and made navigation more difficult.

Flood control

"The northern rivers carry a lot of silt. So if you embank them, the river keeps getting higher because of the accumulation of silt," said E. Somanathan, head of the Centre for Research on the Economics of Climate Change, Food, Energy and Environment. "And because every monsoon the silt adds up, an embanked river after a few years turns dangerous, even though initially it provided some protection."

This is why such incidents related to the Kosi aren't isolated: the river breached its embankment in 1963, 1968, 1971, 1980, 1984, 1987, and in 1991, before it breached again in 2008 and 2024.

Almost exactly a year ago, when the Mahuli tributary of the Kosi river entered India and hit the Kosi barrage, the quantity of the silt in the river increased, causing devastating floods.

Every year, the amount of silt threatens locals and submerges vast tracts of agricultural land.

The repeated breaches raise an important question: should embankments be considered flood-control structures at all?

Influent and affluent rivers

"Whether embankments are necessary depends on the aim," Rahul Yaduka, a postdoctoral scholar working on the WATCON Project at The School of Oriental and African Studies, London, said.

"If development is the aim, then embankments will serve the purpose because you tame the river. But people have always been living with floods for centuries. When the British noticed that the Kosi river was shifting its course, they found it difficult to control it, and decided to build an embankment to control the flow. But the result of this exercise was water-logging outside the embankment, causing floods for those who live between the embankment," Dr. Yaduka added.

On the other hand, Bindhy W. Pandey, director of the Centre for Himalayan Studies at the University of Delhi, argued that embankments can play an important role in rivers in the western Himalayan region as they are less flood-prone and geologically more stable. He, however, cautioned against constructing embankments on the rivers in the eastern Himalayan region as they were vulnerable to breaches, geologically weaker and more prone to landslides.

"Rivers draining in the west are influent, meaning that as the river flows through different States, the precipitation decreases. Whereas the east-flowing rivers are affluent, that is, the amount of precipitation increases in the course of time," said Prof. Pandey.

> If the river-linking project is completed, 5,247 cusecs of extra water will be diverted towards the Mechi river. But in the floods last year, Kosi river carried nearly 6 lakh cusecs of water. So, we are not reducing the flood water by building embankments or by linking the rivers
>
> **MAHENDRA YADAV**
> KOSI NAV NIRMAN MANCH MOVEMENT

He added that construction in such geologically weak regions must be paired with constant monitoring and a transparent rehabilitation process for the displaced people.

His argument circled back to Dr. Somanathan's warning: that embankments may offer short-term protection but often open the door for long-term vulnerability.

'Not a viable option'

"The U.S. has dismantled embankments and allowed the flood to happen. When we build more infrastructure that alters the river's course, the river bed keeps increasing silt, but floods without embankments are much milder. If an embankment is built, then we need to keep raising its height. But that requires finances," Dr. Somanathan said.

The alternative that he proposed is to 'learn to live with floods'. "When we do that, we are allowing the river to act as a natural drainage system," Dr. Somanathan said.

Mahendra Yadav, member of the Kosi Nav Nirman Manch Movement, also stands by the concept of 'living with floods' but believes this can happen only if people between the Kosi embankment are trained with early warning systems and provided rehabilitation outside.

"The solution that can be offered to people is to rehabilitate them outside the embankment because if the embankment is blocking them, they cannot get out, even with early warning systems."

"For India, an embankment is not a viable option because we don't have the infrastructure to maintain it," he said. But as the embankments are a reality for many rivers in northern India, Dr. Yaduka suggested that one has to "identify ways to make them better and stable. Along with that, paleochannels (abandoned ancient river or stream channels) should be revived so that water is distributed."

Mr. Yadav also suggests the improvement of palaeochannels, which contain the water well within their basins, preventing floods.

Tall promises

Ahead of the Bihar election this year, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) promised "flood to fortune" in their election manifesto for the people of Bihar. The coalition assured residents that if elected to power, the newly formed government will initiate the river-linking project – embankments and canals under the "flood to fortune" model – to promote agriculture and fisheries, according to the *Sankalp Patra* released jointly by the BJP and NDA.

Though this promise carries with it a tone of political optimism, the State's geography is complex and requires a deeper understanding of the long-standing ecological realities, including sedimentation and siltation. The river-linking project in question is the Kosi-Mechi project, which aims to extend the EKMC (Eastern Kosi Main Canal) up to the river Mechi, a tributary of the river Mahananda, mainly to provide irrigation to the water-scarce region along the Mahananda basin during the kharif season. However, in reality, if it rains near the Kosi catchment area, the monsoon reaches Mahananda in a day or two and there is barely any need for water during the monsoon.

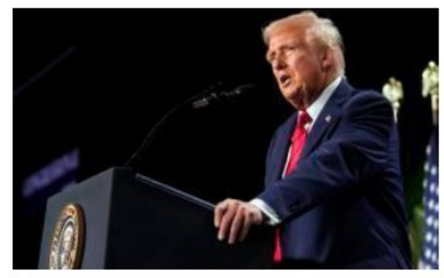
"But if the issue [flooding] was to be solved by an embankment, then there should have been no floods at all, but that is not the case. If the river-linking project is completed, 5,247 cusecs of extra water will be diverted towards the Mechi river. But in the floods last year, Kosi river carried nearly 6 lakh cusecs of water. So, we are not reducing the flood water by building embankments or by linking the rivers," Mr. Yadav explained.

Every year, more money has to be spent on raising the embankment, but that is not a sustainable solution, he added. "In fact, it is a luxurious choice. Even though money is spent, does it actually sustain? And more importantly, who is benefiting from it? The locals stuck [with] the embankment face the wrath without any rehabilitation facilities."

"With the embankment, the flood has increased nearly four times," Mr. Yadav said. He added that desilting should be done according to scientific methods.

Dr. Somanathan contended that embankments disturb ecological integrity, groundwater, and biodiversity, and expressed the hope that the discourse would change from flood-control to flood-resistance.

For the families that lose their homes every year when a river swells, the embankment is both a threat and a promise, a line drawn against nature that never seems to hold for long. But as the Kosi's story illustrates, every time an embankment is raised, the river is quick to reclaim its domain.



US President Trump has ordered cuts in funding for climate research. AP

Experts work on UN climate report amid U.S. pushback

Agence France Presse

Some 600 experts began work on December 1 on the next major United Nations climate report even as U.S. President Donald Trump has continued to call the science of global warming a "hoax."

French Ecological Transition Minister Monique Barbut, whose country is hosting the five-day meeting in a Paris suburb, told the scientists their "extremely precious" work is crucial as multilateralism has weakened.

"Too many people deny the results of your work," she told the experts from more than 100 countries gathered in a skyscraper in Saint-Denis for the opening of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) meeting.

Their work faces hurdles in the face of a U.S. administration whose president called climate change the "greatest con job ever" during a speech at the UN in September.

One of the co-chairs of an IPCC working group is U.S. climate expert Katherine Calvin, who was fired from her job as chief scientist at NASA following cuts ordered by the Trump administration.

"The statements, for example, from the American administration on the origin of climate change, the fact that it's a hoax, if you will, we still find that quite surprising," said an official at the French ecological transition ministry who requested anonymity.

Their work has run afoul of President Trump, who called climate change the greatest con job ever, while addressing the UN

The previous IPCC report, released in 2023, had warned that the world was on track to exceed the 1.5 C warming threshold by 2030.

The UN now says that safer limit will be breached earlier than feared.

The meeting in France launches a process that will culminate with the IPCC's Seventh Assessment Report (AR7), due to be published in 2028 or 2029.

It brings together lead authors of the report in a single venue for the first time, in an effort to tackle interdisciplinary climate questions.

The IPCC operates by consensus.

"If any country opposes the text, the report cannot be approved. Every country has a sort of veto," climate scientist Robert Vautard told reporters last week.

While the U.S. government stays out of the climate fray, dozens of American scientists are among the experts working on the IPCC report.

"IPCC reports are going to continue to underpin climate policies and climate action at every level, including international negotiations," IPCC chairman Jim Skea told the gathering.

There already appear to be disagreements over the timing of the next report's publication.

A group called the High Ambition Coalition, which includes European Union countries and developing nations vulnerable to climate change, wants the assessment to come out in 2028.

That would coincide with the global stocktake, a review, required under the Paris Agreement, of the progress countries have made in limiting climate change and its impacts.

But a group of emerging economies and major fossil fuel-producing countries say more time is needed and are advocating for 2029.

The divide echoes the disagreements seen at the recent COP30 climate summit in Brazil, which concluded with a deal that left out an explicit call to phase out fossil fuels.

Despite the disagreements over when to publish the next report, Mr. Skea had said in March: "I don't think the IPCC is in crisis. We will resolve this issue about the timeline."

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Police book unknown person for hoax email

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police on Sunday received a mail on their official address which warned of a series of bomb blasts at the Kempegowda International Airport and several major shopping malls in the city, which after verification was termed as a hoax.

An FIR has been registered against an unknown person.

The email claimed that it was a warning from the "Jaish-e-Mohammed White Collar Terror Team" and warned of explosions at KIA, Orion Mall, Lulu Mall, Forum South Mall, and Mantri Square Mall from 7 p.m. onwards.

The person who sent the email also gave a mobile number asking the authorities to call if they "want to pay and not let this happen".

The police conducted the SOP drill to check on the places mentioned before concluding that it was a hoax.

Private firm employee ends life after killing live-in partner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A preliminary investigation revealed that the couple were in a live-in relationship for 10 years. ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS E.

A 51-year-old private firm employee allegedly strangled his live-in partner to death and later ended his life at their residence near Indira Priyadarshini Nagar, under the Rajagopalnagar police station limits, on Tuesday.

The accused has been identified as Lakshminarayana, who was separated from his wife and was living with his partner, Lalitha, 49, an employee at a rubber factory.

Lalitha's husband died 15 years ago, and she is survived by her 25-year-old daughter. The couple had been residing at a rented house in Indira Priyadarshini Nagar.

According to the police, the incident came to light around 9.30 a.m. when a neighbour noticed the main door partially open. Finding no movement, he entered the house and discovered the bodies of Lakshminarayana and Lalitha.

He alerted the Rajagopalnagar police.

A preliminary investigation revealed that the couple were in a live-in relationship for 10 years.

The police said Lakshminarayana had grown increasingly suspicious of Lalitha, leading to frequent quarrels. An argument on Monday night reportedly escalated, during which he allegedly strangled Lalitha. Bloodstains found on the wall and floor indicate that she may have resisted, police officials said.

After killing her, Lakshminarayana is suspected to have ended his life.

The exact trigger is still under investigation, the police said.

The bodies have been sent for a post-mortem examination. Further investigation is on.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: Tele Manas 14416 or 18008914416 or KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carry explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (December 3, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- Why is there no peace in Ukraine? **newsth.live/ukrainepeacexp**
- How the Kosi's shifting course exposes the perils of embankments **newsth.live/kosiriver**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The value of JSW's defence drone manufacturing project

90 In $ million. JSW Defence has launched a $90 million project to build a military drone manufacturing facility in Hyderabad in partnership with U.S.-based Shield AI. The investment will support a licensing arrangement to produce the V-BAT Group 3 unmanned aerial system in India. PTI

The death toll from Asia's flood disasters across four nations

1,200 More than 1,200 people have died in widespread flooding across Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Malaysia after torrential monsoon rains and two cyclones triggered severe inundation. Indonesia's Aceh province is among the worst hit. AFP

The paddy procured by Andhra Pradesh this season

11.9 In lakh tonnes. Andhra Pradesh has procured 11.9 lakh tonnes of paddy so far this season, Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar said on Tuesday. Payments totaling ₹2,830 crore have been deposited directly into the accounts of 1.7 lakh farmers. PTI

Value of U.P.'s newly approved drinking water projects

582.74 In ₹ crore. The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved two drinking water projects worth ₹582.74 crore under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme. The investments aim to upgrade Bareilly's water supply system and expand Kanpur's pipeline network. PTI

The share of trees to be saved in Nashik's Sadhu Gram project

60 In per cent. Amid protests over the proposed felling of more than 1,700 trees in Nashik's Tapovan area for the 2026 Kumbh Mela, municipal commissioner Manisha Khatri said that 60-70% of the surveyed trees will be saved. PTI

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Why is there no peace in Ukraine?

While Ukraine faces the possibility of a prolonged war with Russia, a controversial 28-point peace plan from the Trump administration proposes recognition of Russian control over key territories. With pressure mounting on President Zelenskyy, the prospect of a ceasefire grows increasingly complicated amid military setbacks

WORLD INSIGHT

Stanly Johny

In late February 2022, days after Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine, Russian and Ukrainian officials met in Belarus, opening a diplomatic channel. Russian troops had advanced towards Kharkiv in the northeast and Kherson in the south, but if Moscow expected a quick victory, it was mistaken.

The talks that began in Belarus continued under Turkey's mediation, culminating in a meeting in Istanbul on March 29, 2022. Ahead of the talks, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Ukraine was ready to renounce NATO membership and recognise Russian as an official language. Soon after the Istanbul meeting, Russia announced that it would pull back troops from the Kyiv and Chernihiv fronts as a "diplomatic gesture". It later emerged that Russian and Ukrainian officials had tentatively agreed on the outlines of an interim settlement. According to a September 2022 essay in *Foreign Affairs* by Fiona Hill and Angela Stent, both former U.S. foreign service officials, it was decided that Russia would agree to withdraw to its pre-war position (meaning it would keep Crimea, annexed in 2014, and that pro-Russian rebels would control parts of Donetsk and Luhansk). In return, Ukraine would pledge not to seek NATO membership and instead receive security guarantees from a group of countries. According to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Moscow and Kyiv were ready to draft an agreement based on the Istanbul framework.

However, the Istanbul process collapsed. Western governments were hesitant to provide the security guarantees Ukraine demanded. According to Mr. Lavrov, then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited Kyiv in early April and "told them to continue to fight". Ukrainian President Volodimir Zelenskyy also appeared emboldened by Russia's withdrawal from the Kyiv area, which he interpreted as a sign of weakness. Naftali Bennett, the former Israeli Prime Minister who was also part of the negotiations, later said Russia and Ukraine had come close to making concessions that could have ended the conflict, but Mr. Johnson persuaded Mr. Zelenskyy to not back down. Ukraine chose to continue to fight, forcing Russian troops to withdraw from Khakiv and later Kherson. Russian President Vladimir Putin, in turn, doubled down – formally annexing four more Ukrainian territories and launching a partial mobilisation. The stage was set for a long war.

Trump's plan

Almost four years later, another peace plan, this time pushed by the Donald Trump administration, is being circulated among all parties. The 28-point plan appears even less favourable to Ukraine than the Istanbul framework. Kyiv now faces pressure on the frontline where Russian troops are making slow but steady gains; from the U.S., which wants Ukraine to make concessions; and at home where a corruption scandal has rocked the Zelenskyy regime.

According to Mr. Trump's draft plan, Crimea, Luhansk and Donetsk will be recognised "as de facto Russian". Russia controls the whole of Crimea and the whole of Luhansk, but only about 80% of Donetsk. As per the plan, Ukraine will have to withdraw troops from Donetsk. The line of contact in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia, two other provinces Russia has annexed and partly controls, will be frozen – which means Russia will keep the territories it has captured. Russia will relinquish the territories it has seized other than the five oblasts (say, in Kharkiv and Ddnipropetrovsk) in return for Ukraine's withdrawal from Donetsk. Ukraine will also have to limit the size of its armed forces to 6,00,000 personnel.

The most contentious point, besides territory, in the war was the role of NATO. Russia has consistently opposed Ukraine becoming a member of the trans-Atlantic nuclear alliance, which was founded during the Cold War. As of now, Ukraine doesn't have a pragmatic path towards NATO membership. The Trump administration has also repeatedly stated that Ukraine was unlikely to be a NATO member. While Kyiv had not given up its desire to join the bloc, now, according to the Trump plan, Ukraine should enshrine in its Constitution that it will not join NATO, and the alliance should include in its statutes that Ukraine will not be admitted in the future (but Ukraine can join the EU). "It is expected that Russia will not invade neighbouring countries and NATO will not expand further," reads another point in the plan. Russia and NATO will also initiate dialogue, under the mediation of the U.S., to resolve "all security issues".

If peace prevails, the U.S. promises to reintegrate Russia into the global economy. Sanctions could be lifted and the country could rejoin the G8 grouping (Russia was expelled after the annexation of Crimea), and enter a long-term economic cooperation agreement with the U.S. Moscow will have to enshrine in law its policy of non-aggression towards Europe and Ukraine. While the 28-point proposal says Ukraine will receive "reliable security guarantees", it doesn't offer details about the promise. The Trump administration has now circulated another draft agreement dealing only with the security part. The three-point plan, which needs the approval of Ukraine, Russia, the U.S., the EU and NATO, promises NATO-style security assurances to Ukraine for up to 10 years, which can be renewed by mutual agreement. A significant and sustained armed attack by Russia on Ukraine "shall be regarded as an attack threatening the peace and security of the transatlantic community," reads the document.

Facts on the ground

The Trump plan offers an initial outline to restart talks. While the proposal addresses both Ukraine's future security and Russia's stated concerns – including NATO's eastward expansion – it is widely seen as favouring Moscow. If implemented, Ukraine would have to cede territory, recognise Russian control of its regions and abandon NATO aspirations, while Russia would be reintegrated into the global political and economic mainstream. Mr. Zelenskyy's initial response was that Ukraine was being forced to choose between its dignity and a close partner (the U.S.). Nevertheless, Ukrainian officials held talks with European and U.S. officials to add their inputs to the Trump proposal.

While efforts to find a political solution continue, the facts on the ground have shifted significantly since the March 2022 Istanbul talks. At that time, Russia, whose initial attack had not gone according to plan, was on the back foot, and appeared willing to make concessions. But after suffering tactical setbacks in Kharkiv and Kherson, Russia regrouped and restructured its forces and shifted to a long-term war strategy. Over the past four years, Ukraine has received some of the West's most advanced defensive and offensive systems, including F-16s, Patriot missile defence systems, main battle tanks, armoured vehicles and medium to long range rockets, besides large quantities of ammunition. Yet, they couldn't stop Russia's grinding advances. On Monday, Russia's Defence Ministry announced that its troops captured Pokrovsk, a strategically important city in Donetsk, which had been under sustained Russian attack for over a year. The capture of Pokrovsk and Russian advances in Kupiansk (in Kharkiv) could clear the way for further Russian battlefield gains.

When Joe Biden was the U.S. President, Washington's policy was to support Ukraine "as long as it takes". There was a broad consensus between the U.S. and Europe that sustained military and economic assistance to Kyiv, combined with economic sanctions on Moscow, could eventually weaken Russia's war effort – or at least push Mr. Putin to seek a settlement that was not entirely favourable for Russia. But Ukraine's 2023 counteroffensive, aimed at recapturing lost territories, proved a decisive failure, effectively closing off the military option. The return of Mr. Trump to the White House in early 2025 meant that the trans-Atlantic consensus on Ukraine was broken. Mr. Trump saw the conflict as a lost war, and began shifting the burden of supporting Ukraine onto Europe. He believes that once the war is concluded, Washington and Moscow could reopen a new chapter in their historically troubled relationship.

Some in the U.S. strategic community also argue that Washington could attempt a 'Reverse Kissinger'– drawing Russia away from its deepening strategic partnership with China, the U.S's principal global rival.

Zelenskyy's dilemma

The Trump plan leaves Mr. Zelenskyy in a difficult position. The Ukrainian leader, whose term expired last year, continues to cling on to power under martial law. Last week, Mr. Zelenkyy's Chief of Staff Andriy Yermak resigned after a corruption scandal shook the regime. The economy is being propped up by aid from the West, and parts of the country are grappling with power outages as repeated Russian strikes target Ukraine's electricity grid. On the battlefield, the loss of Pokrovsk has marked a major setback.

Mr. Zelenskyy once insisted that peace would be possible only if Russia withdrew from all seized territories, including Crimea. Today, he is prepared to accept a ceasefire along the current frontline, which would leave more than 20% of pre-2014 Ukraine in Russian hands. In Istanbul, there was at least an outline for a possible agreement. That moment has passed.

Now, with the Trump plan, Ukraine finds itself in a much weaker position. It doesn't have a clear path towards military victory. Worse, it risks losing the support of Washington.

European countries, chiefly Germany, the U.K. and France, have pledged continued support. But those assurances carry limited weight if the U.S. exits the support architecture.

If Mr. Zelenskyy accepts the deal Mr. Trump is offering, it would amount to conceding victory to Russia. He could also face serious political consequences at home. If he rejects it, Ukraine risks losing more territory in a prolonged war.

A prolonged invasion

Russia's Defence Ministry has claimed that its troops have captured Pokrovsk, a strategically important city in Donetsk, which had been under sustained Russian attack for over a year. The capture of Pokrovsk could clear the way for further Russian battlefield gains

Sources: Institute for the Study of War, Reuters

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THE GIST

The talks that began in Belarus continued under Turkey's mediation, culminating in a meeting in Istanbul on March 29, 2022. It later emerged that Russian and Ukrainian officials had tentatively agreed on the outlines of an interim settlement.

However, the Istanbul process collapsed. Western governments were hesitant to provide the security guarantees Ukraine demanded. According to Mr. Lavrov, then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited Kyiv in early April and "told them to continue to fight".

The Trump plan offers an initial outline to restart talks. While the proposal addresses both Ukraine's future security and Russia's stated concerns — including NATO's eastward expansion — it is widely seen as favouring Moscow
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Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking
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SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(Under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-2 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 20.12.2025, 01:00 pm to 03.00 pm . [with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of sale],** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **19.12.2025.**

Sl. No.	Borrower and Guarantor Name/ Description of the movable / immovable assets:	Total Liabilities as per Sale Notice	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price & EMD
1	**(1) Ms. Aishwaryagiri Constructions Pvt Ltd,** No.1/4, Unit No. F-2,2nd Floor, 10th Cross, 4th Main Rd, M C Layout, Bengaluru-560040, **Also At: Ms. Aishwaryagiri Constructions Pvt Ltd,** No.236, EWS, 2nd Stage, 2nd Main, 5th Cross, KHB Colony, Basaveshwarnagar, Bangalore-560079, **(2) G.Jayaramaiah** S/o Giriyappa, No 236, 5th Cross, 2nd Stage 2nd Main, K.H.B.Colony, Basaveswara Nagar, Bengaluru-560079 **(2) Mr.Shivakumar S/o Giriyappa,** No. 236, 5th Cross, 2nd Stage, 2nd Main, K.H.B.Colony, Basaveswara Nagar, Bengaluru-560079, **Also At: Mr.Shivakumar** S/o Giriyappa, No. 147, 4th Cross, Jothinagar, Chandra Layoutbangalore-560072.	**Rs. 41,65,62,526.64 (Rupees Forty One Crore Sixty Five Lakhs Sixty two Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Six and Sixty Four Paisa only) as on 01.12.2025 plus further interest thereon**	**Vacant site nos 191,199,200-202, 243,255,258, 286, 290,291,292,293,295-304 , (Total 23 sites) located at Sunnagatta Kasaba Hobli,Neelasandra,Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagar Dist.	**Rs. 9,29,44,000.00 EMD: Rs.92,94,400.00**
			(1) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 191, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/191 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 40 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.190, South by: Site No.192	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs.4,30,000.00**
			(2) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 199, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/199 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 40 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.198, South by: Site No.200	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs.4,30,000.00**
			(3) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 200, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/200 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 40 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.199 South by: Site No.201	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs.4,30,000.00**
			(4) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 201, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/201 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 60 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.200 South by: 20 ft. Road	**Rs. 64,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 6,40,000.00**
			(5) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 202, Kaneshumari No.304/202 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 27 ft and North South 60 ft and bounded as follows: East by : Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand ,West by : Road, North by: Site No.203 South by: Property of Subhadra & Gouthamchand	**Rs. 28,58,000.00 EMD: Rs.2,85,800.00**
			(6) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 243, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/243 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 40 ft and North South 30 ft and bounded as follows:East by : Site No. 242, West by : 20 ft. Road, North by: Site No.204, South by: Remaining portion of property	**Rs. 21,17,000.00 EMD: Rs.2,11,700.00**
			(7) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 255, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/255 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 40 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra and Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.254, South by: Site No. 256	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs.4,30,000.00**
			(8) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 258, formed in Sy No 125/1,124/3 and 124/2 Kaneshumari No.304/258 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 60 ft and North South 30 ft and bounded as follows:East by : 20 ft. Road, West by : Property of Subhadra and Gouthamchand, North by: Site No.257 South by: Remaining portion of the property	**Rs. 31,75,000.00 EMD: Rs.3,17,500.00**
			(9) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 286, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari No.305/286 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 24 ft and North South (52+55)/2 ft and bounded as follows: East by : Site No. 22. West by : Site no.287, North by: Property of Jayaramu and sites of Tahsildar Office, South by: Road	**Rs. 22,65,000.00 EMD: 2,26,500.00**
			(10) All that piece and parcel of immovable property land bearing Plot No. 290, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari No.305/290 situated at Sunnaghatta Village, Neelasandra Grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara Dist. measuring East West 41 ½ ft and North South 57, towards west 60 ft (41 ½ *(57+60)/2) and bounded as follows:East by : Site No. 289, West by : Site no.291 North by: Property of Jayaramu and sites of Tahsildar Office, South by: Road.	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs.4,30,000.00**
			(11) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.291, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/291 situated at Sunnaghatta village,NeelaSandra grama panchayat,Kasaba Hobli,Channapatna Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 290, West by: Site no 292, North by: Sites of Tahsildar Office , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(12) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.292, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/292 situated at Sunnaghatta village, Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasaba Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 291, West by: Site no 293, North by: Property of Jayaramu and Sites of Tahsildar Office South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(13) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.293, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/293 situated at unnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat,Kasabaa Hobli,Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as followsEast by: Site no 292, West by: Site no 294, North by: Property of Jayaramu andSites Tahsildar Office, South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(14) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.295, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/295 at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat,Kasabaa Hobli,Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 29,West by: Site no 296, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(15) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.296, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/296 situated at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat,Kasabaa Hobli,Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 295,West by: Site no 297, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(16) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.297, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/297 situated at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat,Kasabaa Hobli,Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 296, West by: Site no 298, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(17) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.298, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/298 situated at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 29,West by: Site no 299, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(18) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.299, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/299 situated at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk,Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 29, West by: Site no 300, North by: Property of Jayaramu, South by: Road.	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(19) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no. 300, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/300 at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 299, West by: Site no 301, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(20) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.301, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/301 situated at Sunnaghatta village,Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 300, West by: Site no 302, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(21) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing site no.302, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/302 at Sunnaghatta village, Neelasandra grama panchayat,Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 301, West by: Site no 303, North by: Property of Jayaramu , South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(22) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing site no.303, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/303 at Sunnaghatta village, Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli,Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Site no 302, West by: Property of Sheshanna,Gangadhar, North by: Property of Jayaramu South by: Road	**Rs. 43,00,000.00 EMD: Rs. 4,30,000.00**
			(23) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing plot no.304, formed in Sy No 124/2 Kaneshumari no 305/304 at Sunnaghatta village, Neelasandra grama panchayat, Kasabaa Hobli, Channapattana Taluk, Ramanagara District measuring east to West 28 feet and North to South 60 feet bounded as follows East by: Private Property,West by: Site no 305, North by: Road , South by: Property of Puttaswamy	**Rs. 30,29,000.00 EMD: Rs. 3,02,900.00**

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS : (a) Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website **https://baanknet.in/** Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. **(b)** The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer **(c)** The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. **(d)** EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (Baanknet) portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan. **(e)** After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before **19.12.2025,** to Canara Bank, ARM Branch II Bangalore by hand OR Email. (i) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT Acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. (ii.) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount.(iii) Bid Form. The intending bidders should register their names at portal **https://baanknet.in/and** get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E- auction from the service provider, **M/s.PSB Alliance (Baanknet) - e- mail: support.baanknet@psballiance.com.** EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD shall not carry any interest. **(f)** Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiplies of **Rs.50,000/-.** The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. **(g)**The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorized Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. This amount shall be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, ARM II Branch OR shall be deposited through RTGS / NEFT / Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank, ARM II Branch, A/c. No. 209272434, IFSC Code: CNRB0006298. **(h)** For sale proceeds of **Rs.50.00 Lakhs** (Rupees Fifty lacs) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at a rate 1% or as applicable on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the bank. **(i)** All charges for Conveyance, Stamp Duty/GST/Registration Charges etc. As applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. **(j)** Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the E-auction without assigning any reason thereof. **(k)** In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the E-auction, they can approach Canara Bank Circle office, Bengaluru or Canara Bank ARM II Branch, Bengaluru, who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements. **(l)** Bidder has to make due diligence and physical verification of property with regard to title, extent, area dues, etc. No claim subsequent to submission of bid shall be entertained by the bank.

For further details contact Authorised officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch-2- (9113092975, 8921102717, 9993777728, 9483544116, 8709675503 and 080-25310181 during office hours on any working day) e-mail id – cb6298@canarabank.com OR the service provider M/s.PSB Alliance(Baanknet) - e- mail: e- mail: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION / CAUTION

Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back –up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Date : 02.12.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

Another phone found inside Central Prison

This comes four days after the recovery of over 50 phones and an equal number of SIM cards; police are analysing the devices to determine whether they were used for anti-social activities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Four days after a series of raids led to the recovery of over 50 mobile phones and an equal number of SIM cards, officials at the Central Prison have found yet another mobile phone with a SIM card concealed inside the washroom of Barrack C, Tower 2.

The device was discovered on Sunday during surprise inspections. Following the recovery, Paramesh H.A., Superintendent of the Central Prison, filed a complaint with the jurisdictional police seeking a detailed investigation.

This is the fourth FIR registered in connection with the recent seizures.

Investigators are also probing how such a large number of phones, SIM cards, chargers, earphones, and cash were smuggled into the high-security facility despite multiple layers of checks.
PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE

The police have now begun analysing the confiscated mobile phones to determine whether they were used for anti-social activities. Investigators are also probing how such a large number of phones, SIM cards, chargers, earphones, and cash were smuggled into the high-security facility despite multiple layers of checks.

"It is still a mystery how these phones are being used despite jammers and round-the-clock physical and electronic surveillance," a police officer said.

Sources in the Prisons Department suspect a deep-rooted nexus between certain prison staff and inmates, which may have facilitated the smuggling of the contraband. The police also believe a group of inmates may be running an illicit mobile phone racket inside the prison, selling devices at exorbitant rates to other inmates.

Apart from the Central Prison, similar surprise inspections are being carried out at the other district prisons where the officials have recovered and seized many mobile phones and other banned items.

PUCL seeks judicial inquiry into 'custodial torture' and death of delivery executive

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A fact-finding team from the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) has alleged that 28-year-old Darshan Singamalai died after severe custodial torture by personnel of the Viveknagar police station and demanded judicial inquiry as well as immediate action against the officials involved along with protection for the victim's family, who belong to a Scheduled Castes community.

According to PUCL, Darshan was picked up around 1.30 a.m. on November 12, by two policemen accusing him of brandishing a knife to a food-delivery personnel. When Darshan's mother, Adilakshmi, and brother questioned the officers, they were allegedly told he was a "rowdy" and taken to the station for questioning.

PUCL's report alleged that Darshan was detained illegally for four days, and brutally assaulted with lathis and pipes inside the station. Despite repeated visits by his mother on November 13, officers allegedly refused to release him.

The People's Union for Civil Liberties has sought immediate action against the officials involved along with protection for the victim's family, who belong to a Scheduled Castes community.

On November 16, police personnel allegedly forced the family to send Darshan to a private rehabilitation centre in Adakamaranahalli, claiming he needed alcohol de-addiction treatment. At the rehab facility, Darshan reportedly could not walk without support, and the staff were instructed by the police to falsely state that he "fell from a bike".

Darshan remained at the centre for over a week. On November 26, his family received a call informing them that he had developed breathing complications and died.

At the Nelamangala Government Hospital, doctors reportedly showed the family injuries on his chest, back, legs, hands, and feet – allegedly consistent with custodial assault.

The Madanayakanahalli police registered a case and shifted the body for post-mortem to Victoria Hospital. Doctors noted visible injuries, according to PUCL, and recorded a detailed statement from Adilakshmi.

The fact-finding report also alleges that after Darshan's death, eight to 12 police personnel threatened his wife Ashwini, attempting to coerce her into withdrawing the complaint.

The PUCL and the Association of Prisoners' Families for Justice (APFJ) have urged the State government to provide protection to Darshan's family, and arrest and suspend the personnel responsible and order a judicial inquiry.

HC finds no procedural lapses in extending time to submit chargesheet in murder case involving MLA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Finding no procedural lapses in granting 45 days more time for the police to submit final investigation report in the case of the murder of a realtor, allegedly involving MLA Byrathi Basavaraj, the High Court of Karnataka has rejected the petition filed by five of the accused persons seeking bail claiming lapse in extending their judicial custody beyond 90 days.

Justice S. Sunil Dutt Yadav passed the order while rejecting the petitions filed by K. Kiran (accused- 2), Vimal Raj B. (accused-3), Pradeep (accused-6), Madan R. (accused-7), and V. Samuel (accused-8).

They are accused in the murder of Shivaprakash alias Bikla Shiva, who was killed on July 15. The trial court had extended the period for submitting final investigation report as the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), which is probing the case, invoked the provisions of the Karnataka Control of Organised Crime Act (KCOCA) against all the accused, including the MLA.

KCOCA enables the investigating agency to seek additional 90 days for submitting the final investigation report.

While rejecting the contention that the public prosecutor had failed to annex the report of the investigating officer while filing his report to the trial court seeking extension of time to submit final probe report, the High Court said that "absence of annexing the report of the investigating officer would not denude the legal value to be attached to the report of the public prosecutor."

The High Court also found that the public prosecutor's report contained the requirements of the KCOCA, that it should contain progress of investigation and specific reason for extension of detention of the accused beyond 90 days.

Stampede: HC allows A-G to seek views on SOP on crowd management

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday accepted the State Advocate-General's suggestion for seeking views, on the government's proposed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), from the parties to the proceedings in the PIL petition, which the court had *suo motu* initiated by taking cognisance of the death of 11 persons in the stampede on June 4 outside M. Chinnaswamy Stadium during RCB's victory celebrations.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Poonacha adjourned further hearing till January 20, while permitting A-G K. Shashi Kiran Shetty to collect the views of the parties to the proceedings and take necessary action based on the views.

The court had *suo motu* taken cognisance of the stampede to ascertain the reasons which led to the tragedy, whether it could have been prevented, and what remedial measures need to be taken to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Scrap dealer who went to meet female friend found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 29-year-old scrap dealer was found dead under suspicious circumstances in a parked autorickshaw in Gajanana Nagar in Hegganahalli on Monday.

According to the police, Abdul Hussein, who owned a scrap godown in Byadarahalli, had reportedly gone to meet his female friend and went offline since then.

A few hours later, the woman's father had called Abdul's brother and informed him that Abdul had died by suicide and asked them to come near Gajanana Nagar. However, when Abdul's relatives reached the location, they found that the woman's family members had allegedly placed Abdul's body inside an autorickshaw and fled from the spot.

Abdul's family later informed the Kamakshipalya police, who visited the scene and began an investigation. Though the woman's family claims that Abdul died by suicide and that they were taking him to a hospital after lowering him from a noose, Abdul's relatives have accused them of murder.

The police suspect *prima facie* that it could be a case of suicide, but are gathering more evidence to confirm the cause of death. The body has been shifted for post-mortem examination.

A case of unnatural death has been registered at the Kamakshipalya police station and the police are awaiting the post-mortem report.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC), Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase,
Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Fax: 080-28094180, Ph:080-280904178, 4541

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of President of India, sealed **item rate E-Tenders** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works.

NIT No.	ISTRAC/CMG/A.C/MAINT/E-Tender-89/ 2025-2026 Dated: 02.12.2025	ISTRAC/CMG/A.C/MAINT/E-Tender-90/ 2025-2026 Dated: 02.12.2025
Name of Work	**Annual Service Contract for operation of Air conditioning installations at different locations in MOX Campus, Peenya, ISTRAC, Bengaluru**	**Annual Service Contract for operation of Air conditioning installations at different locations in SCC Campus, Peenya, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
Estimate cost put to tender	**Rs. 17.45 Lakhs**	**Rs. 22.04 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tenders**	
Period of completion	**12 Months (With a provision to extend the contract for a period of two more years with same terms and conditions)**	
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 hrs on 03.12.2025 to 17.12.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
Bid clarifications	**From 11.00 hrs on 04.12.2025 to 18.12.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	**19.12.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
Last date & time of receipt of tenders	**20.12.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
Due date and time of opening of tenders	**22.12.2025 after 11.00 hrs.**	
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 34,900.00**	**Rs.44,080.00**

2. For eligibility criteria and other details, Interested tenderers may please refer **detailed bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) on the website:**https://www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender free view at **https://www.tenderwizard.com/isro**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC), Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase,
Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Fax: 080-28094180, Ph:080-280904178, 4541

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

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NIT No.	ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-91/ 2025-2026 Dated: 02.12.2025	ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-92/ 2025-2026 Dated: 02.12.2025
Name of Work	**Annual Maintenance Service Contract of Electrical installation at ISRO Housing Colony, Jalahalli, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**	**Annual Maintenance Service Contract of Electrical installation at ISRO Housing Colony, RPC Layout and Anthariksh Apartment, Malleshwaram, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
Estimate cost put to tender	**Rs. 53.06 Lakhs**	**Rs. 39.65 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tenders**	
Period of completion	**12 Months (With a provision to extend the contract for a period of two more years with same terms and conditions)**	
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 hrs on 03.12.2025 to 17.12.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
Bid clarifications	**From 11.00 hrs on 04.12.2025 to 18.12.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	**19.12.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
Last date & time of receipt of tenders	**20.12.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
Due date and time of opening of tenders	**22.12.2025 after 11.00 hrs.**	
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 1,06,120.00**	**Rs.79,300.00**

2. For eligibility criteria and other details, Interested tenderers may please refer **detailed bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) on the website:**https://www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender free view at **https://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CENTRE (HSFC),
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP (CMG),
DEVANAHALLI, KARNATAKA-562164 Ph:080-2991-6308

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Online Item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works.

Sl. No.	Title of work and NIT no.	Estimated Cost put to tender Rs.	Period of Completion	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	Due date & time of submission	Date of tender opening	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.
01	Maintenance Contract for Civil, PH, Electrical, AC, Horticulture & Housekeeping works (for one year) in Samarthan Building and connected auxiliary facilities at HSFC, Devanahalli. **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/163/2025-26, Dt: 02.12.2025**	130.28 Lakhs	12 Months	From 03.12.2025 (11.00 hrs) to 14.12.2025 (23.30 hrs)	16.12.2025 up to 10.00 hrs	16.12.2025 up to 10.30 hrs	2,60,560/-
02	Construction of restroom and changing rooms for works at HSFC, Devanahalli (Civil, PH & Electrical Work). **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/E/164/2025-26, Dt: 02.12.2025**	22.97 Lakhs	04 Months				45,940/-

Tender documents can be downloaded from website **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** by registering with tender wizard and paying tender processing fee. The procedure for vender registration is displayed in the above website.
Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) from website **www.isro.gov.in** for further details and Purchase of tender documents visit **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-Head CMD, CMG, HSFC

Karnataka Public Work Department
(A Government of KarnatakaEnterprises) O/O Executive Engineer PWD Division, Hosapete, Dist:-Vijayanagara

No:EE/PWD/Dn/Hosapete/TND/ /2025-26/2748 **Date:- 25.11.2025**

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Tenders are invited by undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara Dist, for the works notified in the statement below. The bid shall be in One or Two Cover system namely technical bid and financial bid through KPP Portal, following the link **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sl. No	Work Indent No	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)	Sl. No	Work Indent No	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)
	RESERVED FOR SC CATOGERY				
1	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28525	50.00	3	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28522	50.00
2	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT29434	50.00			
	RESERVED FOR ST CATOGERY				
4	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28446	50.00			
	RESERVED FOR CATOGERY-1				
5	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28971	50.00			
	RESERVED FOR CATOGERY-2A				
6	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT29029	50.00	7	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28523	100.00
	General Works				
8	PWD/2025-26/BG/WORK_INDENT28727	500.00	16	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28519	150.00
9	PWD/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT28587	300.00	17	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28746	50.00
10	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28497	100.00	18	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28300	50.00
11	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28490	100.00	19	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT29100	50.00
12	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28518	100.00	20	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28362	50.00
13	PWD/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT28401	100.00	21	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28361	50.00
14	PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT28337	135.66	22	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT28363	50.00
15	PWD/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT18625/CALL-4	250.00	23	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25627/CALL-3	43.33

		From Sl.No 7 to 16	From Sl No 1 to 6 & Sl No 17 to 23.
1	Quarries of Tender On	As Per kppp Portal.	As Per kppp Portal.
2	Last Date of Tender Submission On	15.12.2025 @ 16.00 Hours	05.12.2025 @ 16.00 Hours
3	Tender Opening date On	16.12.2025 @ 16.30 Hours	06.12.2025 @ 16.30 Hours
4	Financial Bid Opening Date	As Per kppp Portal.	As Per kppp Portal.

Note: Any Changes Either in Tender date or any other condition , Tenderers can view in kppp Portal and Will not be published in News Paper.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara District.

DIPR/Vijayanagar/2025-26/KSMCA/RO No/370

FULL CONTEXT

Why the SIR needs to be completely digitised

The Election Commission is facing criticism for its Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls as reliance on outdated data threatens voter inclusion and the integrity of upcoming elections

Rajeev Kumar

A flawed foundation can never produce a strong system – whether in science, engineering, governance, or IT. Faulty datasets always yield unreliable results, and electoral roll revision is no exception; broken base data cannot generate integrity, no matter how many procedures are added. Only a modern, accurate foundation can sustain a credible electoral system.

This is precisely the problem with the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR), which relies on the legacy rolls of 2002 to 2004 which were created entirely on paper through manual, error-prone processes when India was entering its digital era. It is astonishing that the Election Commission of India (EC) still relies on these outdated records today, despite India being an IT powerhouse and the Commission itself operating one of the world's most advanced electoral systems, ECINet.

This regression has erased decades of digital progress, forcing SIR 2.0 to operate on outdated methods and unreliable, unverifiable data. An exercise meant to produce clean and updated voter rolls has instead pushed the country into a prolonged crisis lasting months.

Tedious process: A BLO helping voters fill up enumeration forms in Kochi on November 28. H.VIBHU

A glimpse at the legacy rolls

The past SIRs functioned mainly as routine summary revisions, focusing on deletions such as removing voters who had shifted, died, or become ineligible, and adding those who had moved or reached voting age. It was executed casually, with little effort to update or correct records.

Therefore, the resulting rolls contain incomplete, ambiguous, and missing information, with standards varying across States and constituencies. Some of the common issues include entries showing only first and middle names without last names, missing EPIC or house numbers, and widespread spelling errors, for example, Agarwal/Agraval, Rakesh/Rakeash, Sangal/Sahgal, and Veer/Vir.

Random inspections of the rolls reveal alarming anomalies, such as entries implying polygamy. For instance, the husbands of Kiran and Seema are listed as Shardul. The author himself, after days of manually scanning hundreds of thousands of entries in Hindi, English, and Bengali, could not find his own record – despite having voted in every general election. These experiences illustrate the flaws in the 2002-04 dataset.

Moreover, as the rolls exist only in paper form, a database of more than 600 million entries cannot undergo verification or consistency checks. The EC's search interface is essentially non-functional, typically returning "no details found" or "error" when queries are made. After several hundred search attempts, the author found no valid matches and was repeatedly directed to PDFs or Booth Level Officers (BLOs). The search page also includes a disclaimer that the rolls are published exactly as received from State Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs). The EC merely hosts them. This effectively distances the EC from the very officers it oversees. Without digitisation, these rolls serve only archival purposes.

These incomplete, non-searchable legacy records form the foundation of today's SIR –leaving countless genuine voters unable to find their names anywhere.

Underutilisation of resources

ECINet allows voters to search the current one-billion-record database using mobile numbers, EPIC numbers, names, dates of birth, addresses, and family relations. It detects duplicate or missing entries and supports services such as registration, deletion, corrections, Aadhaar linking, locating constituencies and polling booths, contacting BLOs, downloading EPIC cards, filing complaints, and tracking their status. These functions are comprehensive and typically work flawlessly, enabling even online submission of Enumeration Forms (EFs) through Aadhaar-based verification.

Yet, legacy SIR data has not been integrated into ECINet with the same efficiency. With minimal effort, the 2002-04 rolls could be digitised and made searchable, offering the same capabilities needed for filling EFs. Its omission raises an obvious question: is it intended to conceal the weaknesses of the legacy rolls?

The EC's expectation that voters can recall where they voted in 2002-04 is unrealistic. EPIC cards were not archived, and people relied on scrap-paper slips. For voters who have moved multiple times over two decades, remembering decade-old booths, part, and serial numbers is impossible.

BLOs offer limited help: most function mainly as distributors and collectors of paper EFs. Lacking past polling records, many demand birth certificates and extra address proofs despite EC rules requiring none. Many also lack data-entry skills, resulting in piles of undigitised EFs; over half of Uttar Pradesh's EFs remain undigitised as per an EC press release on November 27. Paper EFs double the workload: forms are filled by hand and then digitised, and photo-pasting forces poor voters to pay for photographs while BLOs re-digitise them. This digital-to-paper-to-digital loop is inefficient and error-prone.

By contrast, ECINet enables fast, error-free online EF submission with no digitisation, paper-photos, signatures, or documents. Forms 6, 7, and 8 facilitate online insertion, deletion, correction, and Aadhaar linking – separate from BLOs. Aadhaar verification makes the process smooth and reliable.

Minor mismatches – mostly inherited from flawed 2002-04 rolls – can be corrected via Form 8, yet the EC has imposed unnecessary approval requirements that are rarely granted. Voters who have been deleted from the EC rolls have to falsely declare themselves as first-time voters when using Form 6. EF submissions via BLOs show only "received," with no details, unlike transparent online submissions. Thus, a simple digital workflow is blocked by bureaucratic hurdles and official inertia.

For non-tech-savvy citizens, the EC could have deployed mobile digital kiosks with handheld devices and trained staff to help them file EFs online, thereby easing pressure on BLOs and eliminating the need for paper forms.

Instead of delivering the paperless, people-friendly, transparent system it promised, the EC's paper-era methods have created confusion and crisis engulfing both voters and BLOs.

How to go fully digital

The following workflow can make SIR 2026 fully digital, paperless, and verifiable:

Searchability through digitisation: convert all State/UT rolls into a fully searchable digital format, using English as the standard for searchable data and metadata, with regional languages retained as non-searchable fields.

Data integration: fuse old records with reliable datasets – Aadhaar, PAN/Income Tax, driving licence, and local body records – using robust APIs and consistency checks. Aadhaar must be strengthened as the anchor for identity verification.

Differentiate voter categories: classify voters into three groups: (i) stable-address voters, (ii) frequent movers, and (iii) those with immigration/nationality issues.

Submission of EFs online: ensure EFs are submitted entirely online, supported by mobile digital kiosks operated by trained personnel. India has an ample supply of tech-savvy workers who can assist efficiently, while electoral officials handle ground verification.

Digitise all steps: complete document verification, uploads, and post-validation checks entirely online, with transparent workflows.

With these reforms, SIR 2026 can transition from its dependence on outdated paper records to a modern, trusted, technology-driven national exercise.

The way ahead

A fully digital system, as outlined above, would eliminate the long-standing flaws of legacy SIR and enable seamless integration of all processes through ECINet. These reforms are straightforward, feasible, and implementable within the extended timelines of the ongoing SIR. Most steps require minimal effort; only data integration may be deferred beyond SIR 2.0. Once adopted, every component of the SIR will become simpler, faster, and more reliable, with grievances addressed in real time preventing panic, confusion, and unnecessary stress.

A digital SIR is not optional; it is indispensable – there is no alternative. SIR 2026 must become a trust revolution powered by technology, transparency, verification, and integrity. It is better late than never.

Rajeev Kumar is a former professor of computer science at IIT Kharagpur, IIT Kanpur, BITS Pilani, and JNU, and a former scientist at DRDO and DST.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

"Hey, how was the party given by your boss? Dull as usual?"

"On the contrary! The conversation at the party was scintillating."

"The conversation was what?"

"S..c..i..n..t..i..l..l..a..t..i..n..g. The first syllable 'scin' is pronounced like the word 'sin'."

"So the 'c' in 'scin' is silent."

"That's right. As for the second syllable 'ti', some people pronounce the 'i' like the 'i' in words like 'pit', 'bit' and 'hit'. Others pronounce it like the 'a' in 'about'. The 'a' in the third syllable 'la' is like the 'a' in 'late', 'date' and 'hate'. And the final syllable..."

"... I think I know how the final 'ing' is pronounced. But tell me, is the main stress on the third syllable?"

"It's on the first syllable. The word is pronounced SCINtillating. Do you know what the word means?"

"I have no idea."

"It means 'brilliant and witty'. For example, the conversation at the party was scintillating. It means..."

"... it probably means that the conversation was very lively, full of wit."

"Very good."

"Can I say that my favourite actor gave a scintillating performance last night?"

"You certainly can. Here's another example. My father tells me that my great grandfather had a scintillating personality."

"Did he? That's nice to know. Too bad you haven't inherited any of it, though. Tell me, how was the food at the party? Was it as good as the conversation?"

"To tell you the truth, I have no idea."

"What! You mean to say that you were so busy talking that you didn't have anything to eat?"

"No, that's not the case. You see, as we were getting ready to eat, somebody spotted a couple of dead cockroaches floating in the vegetable soup."

"Good lord!"

"That kind of blunted our appetite."

"Blunted your appetite? Can you say that? I thought the word 'blunt' meant 'straightforward'. What is the..."

"... you're right! One of the meanings of the word 'blunt' is straightforward. For example, the teacher very bluntly told the student that he had failed the exam."

"That sounds like my Physics teacher. She once bluntly told the Principal that he wasn't using his common sense."

"That was brave of her."

"I'm not so sure about that! But getting back to the point, you were saying that the word 'blunt'..."

"... has several different meanings. And one of the meanings is to 'make less sharp or forceful'."

"I see. So when you say, 'It blunted my appetite', it means it lessened my desire to eat?"

"Exactly! Here's another example. The bad weather has blunted my enthusiasm for early morning walks."

"Can I say, so much cricket is being played these days that it has blunted my enthusiasm for the game?"

"Has it really? Nothing can blunt my enthusiasm for cricket."

"You never know."

Published in The Hindu on November 10, 1998.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed every year on December 3. A quiz on the rights of persons with disabilities

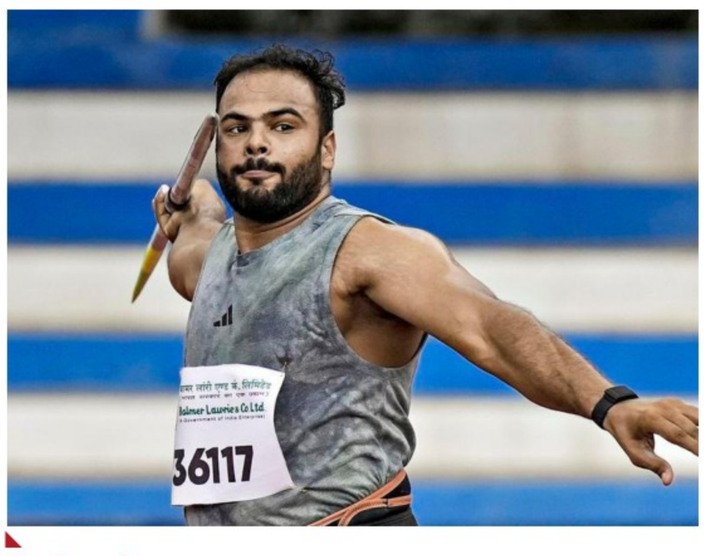
Pradeep Bagival

QUESTION 1
When did India ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities expressing its commitment to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities?

QUESTION 2
How many categories of disabilities are identified under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016?

QUESTION 3
About 60 people with disabilities dropped their assistive devices and wheel chairs and crawled the 83 stone steps of the Capital Hill to protest against the delay in passing the American Disability Act, 1990. What is the name of this iconic civil disobedience event that took place on March 12, 1990 in Washington D.C.?

QUESTION 4
'More I believe in myself, my strength multiplies, my will power gives the confidence that I can do it'. This is one of the three point oath for persons with disabilities suggested by which President of India?



Visual question:
Name this Paralympian from India who was the three-time gold medalist at the World Para Athletics Championship in 2023, 2024 and 2025. PTI

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This place in Hispanic refers to the queen triggerfish and was the place where the U.S. launched a failed operation in Cuba to take out Fidel Castro's regime. **Ans: Bay of Pigs**
2. The CIA driven Operation Ajax was codename for a coup in this country whose leader wanted to nationalise his country's oil reserves. Following the coup, this monarch was restored. **Ans: Iran; Mohammed Mossadegh; Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was the monarch**
3. During a coup in this country supported by the CIA, this leader died. **Ans: Chile; Salvador Allende**
4. This 2020 operation involved former U.S. Green Berets and fishing boats attempting a regime change in this country against this leader. **Ans: Operation Gideon; Venezuela, targeting Nicolas Maduro**
5. On February 5, 2003, this U.S. government official claimed that Iraq possessed "Weapons of Mass Destruction". **Ans: Colin Powell**
Visual: Identify him. **Ans: Manuel Zelaya**
Early Birds: Siddhartha Viswanathan| Prashansa Lohumi| Haridas Pal| Tamanjit Bisla| Arjun Debnath
Pradeep Bagival is former Asst.Commissioner for persons with disabilities, Government of Karnataka.

Word of the day

Auscultation: listening to sounds within the body (usually with a stethoscope)

Synonyms: hearing, diagnostic procedure

Usage: *The doctor had to auscultate his heart sounds carefully.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/auscultationpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˌɔːskəlˈteɪʃən/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

'Acquire land for Ejipura flyover without delay'

Greater Bengaluru Authority Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao pulls up officials over delay in land acquisition for the long delayed flyover; civic body has to acquire 230 sqm of private land

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao pulled up officials over delay in land acquisition for the long delayed Ejipura flyover and directed them to expedite the same.

"Land belonging to St. John's Institution at two locations, the Kendriya Sadan under the Central government, and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics must be acquired for the project. Officials must coordinate with all the authorities concerned, resolve pending issues immediately, and take possession of the required land," he said.

Meanwhile, the civic body has to acquire 230 sqm of private land for road widening and construction of a pedestrian pathway near Ejipura junction. Mr. Rao instructed officials to expedite this acquisition as well.

A file photo of construction work for the flyover at Ejipura.

Status of project

Raghavendra Prasad, Chief Engineer, GBA, said that of the total 762 segments required to be cast for the 2.38-km flyover, 584 were already cast. Of the 584 segments completed, 454 have been assembled, he said. Acquiring the St. John's property at the earliest will accelerate progress and support timely completion of the project," he said.

D.S. Ramesh, Commissioner, Bengaluru East City Corporation, visited Hoodi area and directed officials to speed up work on widening of multiple roads in the area, as per Revised Master Plan - 2015. These projects are expected to ease traffic congestion in the area.

He directed officials to develop the road between Hoodi junction to Hope Farm into a model road. The road, 80 feet wide now, is proposed to be widened to 150 feet as per RMP - 2015. He also inspected Hoodi - Kurudu Sonnenahalli Link Road and Hoodi - Sadaramangala roads, which are also up for widening. He directed officials to speed up land acquisition to ensure civil works begin soon.

Names of 14 wards changed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Monday issued multiple notifications changing names of 14 wards and boundaries of six.

This follows a controversy over a few ward names and many pointing to anomalies in boundaries, sources said.

For instance, MLA for Yelahanka S.R. Vishwanath had raised objection to a ward in his constituency being named Aakash. It has now been renamed Aero City Ward. Yelahanka Old Town has been renamed Raja Kempegowda ward and the ward earlier named after Bengaluru's founder has now been renamed Chowdeshwari Ward.

While six wards in East Corporation, four in North, three in West, and one in South have been renamed, boundaries of four wards in South Corporation and two in Central Corporation have been changed.

'Table KAOMA in Belagavi session of legislature'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Apartments' Federation urged the State to update the 'archaic' Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore Apartments' Federation (BAF), representing over 1,400 apartment and villa resident welfare associations (RWAs), has urged the State government to table and implement the Karnataka Apartment Ownership and Management Act (KAOMA) during the Winter Session of the legislature in Belagavi.

The BAF also urged the State to update the "archaic" Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972 to end the administrative chaos and litigation caused by the lack of clear management and ownership rights.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Satish Mallya, president of BAF, said: "Implementing a comprehensive legal framework for apartment owners has been BAF's primary demand for years, a commitment both the Congress and the BJP included in their manifestos. With two-and-a-half years having elapsed since the Congress took power, this is no longer a mere request, but an urgent legislative demand. The delay, the legal vacuum, and the lack of clarity have severely impacted lakhs of homeowners who deserve protection."

Some of the key provisions under KAOMA are a clear transfer of property rights and undivided share (UDS) from builders/promoters to owners, strengthening owners' associations with clear formation rules, registration mechanisms, and enforcement power for bylaws, establishing a dedicated, clear, and swift mechanism for resolving conflicts, including provisions for amalgamation and redevelopment to manage ageing apartment complexes effectively, and a consolidating governance under one powerful Act (KAOMA) instead of relying on fragmented, multiple laws, according to the release.

DSEL steps in to prevent stray dog menace in all educational institutions

Officials have been told to provide the number of dogs on the premises of all educational institutions. FILE PHOTO

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Principal Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has issued a circular to prevent stray dog menace on the premises of schools and Pre-University (PU) Colleges in the State in wake of a recent Supreme Court's directive.

Officials have been instructed to provide the number of dogs on the premises of all educational institutions to urban and rural local bodies.

"Once the dogs are moved from the premises of the educational institution, a compound/fence should be constructed around the premises of the institution to prevent stray dogs from entering the premises again," V. Rashmi Mahesh, Principal Secretary, DSEL, has said.

Ms. Mahesh has directed that the headmaster/principal/senior assistant teacher of the respective school be appointed as the nodal officer to oversee all these activities and coordinate with the local bodies.

"Officials should coordinate with the heads of schools/colleges under their jurisdiction, urban and rural local bodies and ensure that appropriate measures are taken to prevent stray dogs from roaming in the premises of schools and colleges. Also, a meeting of the heads of schools and colleges should be held every 15 days and followed up," she added.

Animal activists oppose

Animal activists, however, have expressed strong opposition to the relocation of stray dogs and urged the DSEL to withdraw the circular.

Arun, an animal activist from Bengaluru, said: "It is the fundamental duty of all citizens to show compassion for animals. Children should be taught about nature and the protection of animals and birds. Instead, this circular is to expel stray dogs from the premises of school, colleges and instil hatred in children against them. Dogs are not wild animals. There is no example of dogs biting children in school and colleges."

"We have decided to appeal against the SC order and more than 1.5 lakh animal activists have already written to the Chief Justice of India. The DSEL should not implement this directive of the SC in the State for any reason and the circular should be withdrawn," he urged.

Barely a month after repairs, road from Balagere to Panathur damaged again

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

Barely a month after it was asphalted and repaired, the Balagere-Panathur road stretch near Vibgyor School in AECS layout in the Bengaluru East Corporation has crumbled again, at the very spot where a school bus had toppled earlier after its wheel got stuck in an open drain.

This is at least the third time in recent months that the road condition has worsened within days of repair, with residents questioning the quality of work.

The residents told *The Hindu* that the damaged stretch has become difficult for vehicles to navigate and was mainly affecting the transportation of schoolchildren. They said buses often get stuck, posing risks to children, and many parents have asked drivers to avoid entering the narrow lanes until the road stabilises. Large school buses frequently brush against parked vehicles or struggle to reverse in the confined stretch, they said.

Lekha Raj, a resident, said a reversing school bus narrowly missed hitting an elderly pedestrian recently.

Several parents were now suggesting that only smaller vehicles be allowed inside until the road was properly restored. Many children, the residents said, end up spending a significant part of their commute just getting out of the lane because the buses often take more than 30 minutes to navigate the narrow, damaged stretch and often get stuck in potholes.

"The road was asphalted recently, and MLA Manjula Aravind Limbavali's team had taken credit for completing the work. But why has it failed again within weeks?" a resident asked, adding that this was not the first time temporary repairs had collapsed on the same spot.

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao has on several occasions directed engineers to ensure that asphalting was carried out using proper materials and procedures.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has also inspected the Panathur-Balagere stretch multiple times. Yet, the residents alleged that the contractor used loose soil as the base and merely topped it with a thin layer of asphalt, which they say was the main reason for the recurring issue. They demanded a thorough review of the work and questioned why basic standards were not followed despite multiple high-level inspections.

Sudeep Bhargava, another resident, said the contractor must face tough penalties. "Such contractors must be held accountable so it sets an example," he said, pointing out that the road was repaired barely 10 days ago and has already deteriorated. Workers have now begun yet another round of patchwork on the same stretch, he added.

Head constable found dead in Shettihalli lake

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 50-year-old head constable attached to the Channapatna traffic station was found dead in Shettihalli lake in Channapatna Rural police station limits on Tuesday.

The deceased has been identified as Lakshman. He was on his way to work on his two-wheeler when the incident occurred.

The police suspect that while driving next to the lake, Lakshman lost control and slipped into the lake and drowned.

His family members tried to reach him when he did not return home, but his mobile phone was switched off.

Night shift

According to the police, Lakshman left home around 7.30 p.m. and was heading to the Channapatna Rural traffic police station for his night shift.

He reportedly lost control of his bike, hit the bridge railing, and fell into the lake.

On Tuesday morning, passers-by found the two-wheeler next to the lake.

The police recovered the body and shifted it to the hospital for post-mortem. A case of unnatural death has been registered and investigation is on.

Bank ropes in IBM to modernise infrastructure

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Bank Ltd. (KBL), an 'A' class scheduled commercial lender, has roped in IBM to modernise its digital banking infrastructure.

This project, which was implemented by IBM ecosystem partner, Fyrii, along with IBM Customer Success Team, has transformed the bank allowing it to establish a secure, scalable, and agile Application Programming Interface (API) platform while reducing total cost of ownership and reinforcing its digital foundation, said an official communique.

This platform would enable Karnataka Bank quicker rollout of services such as digital payments, loan processing, and third-party integrations, while maintaining secure connections with multiple systems both internally and externally.

"With IBM Cloud Pak for Integration on Red Hat OpenShift, we now have an agile and secure platform that allows us to scale operations across India, simplify system management, and reduce costs while improving the overall customer experience," said Venkat Krishnan, chief information officer, Karnataka Bank Ltd.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

ELECTRICAL (CONSTRUCTION) BRANCH.
OPEN TENDER T. No. JBP/LC/T/2025/07

The Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer (Construction), West Central Railway, Jabalpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders from the reputed and experienced contractors having valid 'A' Class Electrical License (in the name of Firm or with one of the partners or in his own name if sole proprietor) issued by any state Govt. through ON-Line for the following works. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **NIT No. :** JBP/LC/T/2025/07 Date-27.11.2025**, Name of work with location :** Supply, Installation, testing & commissioning of Standard Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) equipment along with maintenance contract for 04 years after warrantee period for control of traction sub-station at Rampur-Naikin, Deosar, Nagod & Ajaygarh, Switching stations at Rewa, Gondawali, Satna & Khajuraho (boundary SPs) new SPs at Sidhi & Sakariya and new SSPs at Govindgarh. Baghwar, Churhat, Gajrahi, Bahari, Barethiya, Phulwari, Panna & Subdua for 2x25 KV AC single phase 50Hz, as per RDSO specification no. TI/SPC /RCC/SCADA/0134 with latest amendments for Jabalpur division due to construction of new BG line in Rewa-Sidhi-Singarauli and Satna-Panna-Khajuraho section related with Khajuraho-Singarauli new BG Rail line project of Jabalpur division in West-Central Railway, **Approx cost of the work (in Rs.) :** 4,77,50,887.48/-, **Cost of tender form :** 0.00/- , **Address of the office :** Dy.CEE/(Construction)/ Jabalpur, G-floor, CPD-RE building, JBP-482001., **Bid security money (in Rs.) :** 3,88,800.00/-, **Completion period :** 12 months, **Date & Time for submission of tender :** 19.12.2025 (Up to 15.00 hrs.)**, Date & Time for opening of tender :** 19.12.2025 (at 15.30 hrs. or later), Complete The details of tender document available on the Railway website https://ireps.gov.in and also placed on notice boards.

Sd./-
Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer (Construction), West Central Railway, Jabalpur

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 30/2025 Dt. 25.11.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description in Brief	Quantity	Tender Due on
1	33251288A	C3W Distributor Valve	64 Nos	18.12.2025
2	75255003	Set pf densified Thermal bonded Polyster Block	100 Set	06.01.2026
3	72255001	Supply of Cast Iron Stamped Test Weight	3335 Nos	05.01.2026
4	30251272A	Mirror Assembly to ICF	11528 Nos	23.12.2025
5	83253000A	8 Eco-Friendly Paper Packing	9152227 Nos	12.01.2026
6	75255004	Set of Densified Thermal Bonded Polyster	75 Set	24.12.2025
7	56251089A	PVC Power Cable 2C x 35 Sq.mm.	420 KM's	15.12.2025
8	47251015	Distribution Transformer 60KVA Capacity,	25 Nos	18.12.2025
9	56255270	PVC Power Cable 2C x 70 Sq.mm.	103 KM's	15.12.2025
10	16255003	3 Phase Induction motor (PAC type Traction Motor)	04 Nos	06.01.2026
11	77251072B	Epoxy based Elastified top coat	43100 LTR	23.12.2025
12	75255002	Set of Densified Thermal Bonded Polyster Block	200 Set	09.12.2025
13	30255005	Sliding door arrangement (Both LH & RH)	152 Nos	15.12.2025
14	16251132Q	Ring Standard Width to EMD Part	192 Nos	17.12.2025
15	18241197B	Lead Acid Low Maintenance Diesel Loco	679 Nos	16.12.2025

All Tender Closing Time : **Upto 10.30 hrs**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi

PUB/695/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **UTS Moblie App** from **Google Play Store** for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458 E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com
F.No: LDCL/Vessel Tracking/2025 Dt : 17.11.2025

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are invited from experienced and eligible technology solution providers possessing proven expertise in **satellite-based vessel tracking systems and dashboard services for enabling live tracking of the fleet of 21 vessels owned by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration (UTLA)** and operated by **Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited (LDCL).**

For detailed tender documents and e-tendering procedures, please visit the official website: **https://tendersutl.gov.in. Tender Reference:** LDCL/VesselTracking/2025
Tender Due Date: 08.12.2025, 11:30 AM

For any assistance related to e-tendering, please contact the Help Desk at **0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-6277787,** or visit **https://tendersutl.gov.in.**

Sd/- MD (LDCL)

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services
Debt Recovery Tribunal - I Karnataka (Bengaluru)
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pincode - 560001

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti Failing which by Publication.

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/328/2023 **18-03-2024**

BANK OF BARODA / Versus / SRI CHOWDAREDDY

In the Matter of

(CH-1) Bank of Baroda (Erstwhile Vijaya Bank)
Chintamani Branch, No. 414/389, BVS Plaza, M.G. Road, Chelur Circle, Chintamani Town, Chintamani - 563125
... Applicant Bank / Certificate Holder

--- Versus ---

To,
(CD-1) Sri. Chowdareddy S/o Sri. Venkatarayappa
(CD-2) Smt. Nagamani D/o Sri. Chowdareddy
Defendants No. 1 and 2 Residing at:
No. 10, Dwarpalli Village, Chilakalanerpu Hobli, Chintamani Taluk-563 125.
(CD-3) Sri. Manjunatha (Deceased) S/o Sri. Muniswamy
(CD-4) Sri. Muniswamy
(CD-5) Smt. Ramakrishmamma W/o Sri. Muniswamy
(CD-6) Sri. Devaraj S/o Sri. Muniswamy
(CD-7) Sri. Amarnatth S/o Sri. Muniswamy.
All are Residing at: No. 08, Bandenahalli, Parathimmanahalli, Chintamani Taluk, Chikkaballapura District - 563 159
... Defendants / Certificate Debtors

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BENGALURU (DRT-I) in **OA/508/2018** an amount of **Rs.1246192 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Forty Six Thousands One Hundred Ninety Two Only)** along with cost and future interest @ 12.5% p.a. Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. **23/04/2018** till realization and costs of **Rs.47505 (Rupees Forty Seven Thousands Five Hundred Five Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally / fully / Limited)

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby order to appear before the undersigned on **02/05/2024 at 10.30 a.m.** for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
   (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
   (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **18.03.2024**

Sd/- (P.H. HEMANTH KUMAR., IRS)
RECOVERY OFFICER - II

I and DKS will always remain brothers: CM

We are in the same party, follow one ideology, and will work together in the 2028 Assembly elections, says Siddaramaiah after breakfast meet

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid the tussle for the Chief Minister's post and sharing of power after completion of the first half of the five-year term of the Congress government in Karnataka, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar held a breakfast meeting on Tuesday at the latter's residence at Sadashivanagar in Bengaluru. They once again sought to demonstrate that they are united and have no differences between them.

After the meeting, Mr Siddaramaiah said, "D.K. Shivakumar and I will always remain brothers. We are in the same party, follow one ideology, and will work together in the 2028 Legislative Assembly elections".

Mr. Shivakumar termed the breakfast meeting with Mr Siddaramaiah on Tuesday as a matter 'between brothers', stressing that there is no groupism within the Congress government.

The two leaders met for the second breakfast meeting in less than four days. Mr. Shivakumar had gone for a breakfast meeting at the Chief Minister's residence on November 29 in Bengaluru, after the party high command directed both leaders to resolve their differences, ahead of the winter session of the State legislature in Belagavi, which would commence on December 8, and the Parliament session that commenced on December 1.

After the meeting on Tuesday, both leaders addressed a joint press conference and reiterated that they would abide by the high command's decision on leadership change in Karnataka. "We will listen to whatever high command and Rahul Gandhi say," the Chief Minister said. Asked about a visit to Delhi, he said, "So far, no communication. If they call us, we will definitely go."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar speaking to the media at the latter's residence at Sadashivanagar in Bengaluru on Tuesday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

'Politics is not permanent'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's cryptic remark that "politics is not permanent" sparked political chatter on Tuesday. The Chief Minister made this remark after the second round of the breakfast meeting with Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC chief D.K. Shivakumar at the latter's residence.

During the interaction with Congress MLA Beluru Gopalakrishna at the entrance of the State Secretariat, the Chief Minister said, "Politics is not permanent," setting off speculation about possible political shifts within the Congress camp. It is reported that Mr. Gopalakrishna, who was coming out along with Mr. Siddaramaiah after the meeting, asked him in jest, "How was the naati koli sambar, sir?"

Immediately, the Chief Minister said, "Politics is not permanent. I don't bother about anything. Is politics our father's property? Whatever happens, let it happen".

DKS to be CM 'when high command decides'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Soon after the breakfast meeting, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was pointedly asked by a reporter when his deputy D.K. Shivakumar will become the Chief Minister. Quick came the reply from Mr. Siddaramaiah, "When the high command decides".

However, the Chief Minister's visit to the Deputy Chief Minister's residence is believed to have brought Mr. Shivakumar to the centre stage of Karnataka politics.

Mr. Shivakumar and his brother D.K. Suresh, former MP, welcomed the Chief Minister. Kunigal MLA H.D. Ranganath, a relative of Mr. Shivakumar, also joined them for breakfast.

The Chief Minister said Mr. Shivakumar had served *naati koli* (a side dish of country chicken) with his breakfast.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said he would meet AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal at a function in Mangaluru on Wednesday. In fact, both leaders held a breakfast meeting at the Chief Minister's residence on November 29 following a call from Mr. Venugopal.

During a 45-minute discussion after the breakfast, the two leaders discussed the strategy to be adopted by the government to counter the proposed non-confidence motion to be tabled by the opposition BJP and the JD(S).

"Me and Mr. Shivakumar will take an-all party delegation to Delhi on December 8 to meet all Karnataka MPs to brief them about issues of the State," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

Mr. Shivakumar said, "We discussed issues related to the government, the party and the strategy to be adopted during the winter session of the legislature". He said the high command has decide on the Cabinet reshuffle.

"Hosted the CM for breakfast at my residence today as we reaffirm our commitment to good governance and the continued development of our State under the Congress vision," Mr. Shivakumar posted on social media.

'India should focus on building national aircraft, have expertise'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Aravind S. Melligeri of Aequs Ltd., a Belagavi-based manufacturer of engine systems, landing systems and cargo and interior systems for global aerospace OEMs like Airbus, Boeing, Safran, and Collins Aerospace, said that India requires more aerospace systems and equipment manufacturing firms as the global market for these was huge.

Mr. Melligeri, who is Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Aegus told *The Hindu*, "We currently touch/make 5,000 parts of aircraft while each airplane has 20,000 to 30,000 different machine parts. This indicates a huge market opportunity for us. India requires 10 more Aequs kind of companies".

He said India has to ultimately focus on building a national aircraft. "We have the expertise for it," he said on the sidelines of the company's IPO announcement here on Tuesday.

Airbus is the majority customer for Aequs and it supplies several components to the airplane manufacturer while Boeing, which came on board through an earlier acquisition in the U.S, currently accounts for 15% of the business, but is a growing chunk along with all other customers and verticals, according to Mr. Melligeri.

He said the aerospace industry grew between 2003 and 2020 without any down cycle and industries usually witness. However, the pandemic hit it hard, and yet the market grew back in 2021.

Geo-political challenges

However, geo-political challenges, such as Russia-Ukraine war, have adversely impacted the growth of India's aerospace manufacturing sector.

"Such challenges put stress on the supply chain for instance, supply of Titanium from Russia was under constraint, also the U.S. had said they won't buy it from Russia".

We should have a mechanism to overcome these global supply related challenges, especially when the aerospace industry is global and everyone wants to see the aircraft fly, Mr. Melligeri commented, observing that enterprises in Europe did not face shortage of Titanium as they weren't under any purchase restrictions from Russia.

Aequs has also invested ₹600 crore in consumer electronics business in the last 24 months in Hubballi, he said.

Tender for smart meters: HC quashes complaint against Minister, two officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a relief to Energy Minister K.J. George, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday quashed the criminal proceedings initiated against him and two officials on a complaint lodged by BJP leaders alleging a series of illegalities and corruption in the process of awarding tender in favour of a private company to supply smart electricity meters at an exorbitant price.

Justice M.I. Arun passed the order while allowing the separate petitions filed by Mr. George, Mahantesh Bilagi, then Managing Director (MD) of Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom), and Ramesh H.J., director-technical of Bescom. The petitioners had questioned the legality of an order, passed on July 23, by the Special Court of Sessions for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs, directing the Superintendent of Police (SP), Lokayukta, to submit a report on the complaint lodged by the BJP legislators, C.N. Ashwath Narayan, S.R. Vishwanath, and Dheeraj Muniraj.

'No criminality'

"The tender being awarded in favour of the successful bidder, no criminality can be attributed against them in the awarding of the contract," the court said. "The manner in which the tender has been floated and the terms and conditions of the contract are mentioned, at the maximum the same can be challenged to be in violation of the KTPP Act, but definitely no criminality can be attributed to the petitioners." the High Court observed.

However, the court made it clear that the allegations of the provisions of the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act, 1999 (KTPP Act) being violated or any other improper method of tender process and awarding of the contract, may give rise to a civil cause of action, for the parties concerned, who were desirous of making a bid for the contract or it can also be a matter of public interest litigation".

On going through the complaint, the High Court pointed out that "it is not the case of the complainants that the petitioners took money at the time of awarding the contract to the successful bidder. But it is their [of complainants] case that the entire tender process was designed to favour the successful bidder... which is a shell company and front of Mr. George so that he gets unjustly enriched".

The court pointed out that nobody was illegally disqualified from tender... "and selection of bidders was made transparently and no favour has been shown to the successful bidder", Rajashree Electricals Pvt. Ltd., (REPL), Davangere. The court stated that it is not the case of the complainants that after finalising the terms and conditions of the tender document, when the contract was awarded to the successful bidder, the terms and conditions of the tender document were altered or flouted to favour the successful bidder. In fact, the Bescom has subsequently negotiated with the successful bidder to the terms more favourably to the Bescom.

"Whatever changes have taken place are for the benefit of the State or as a natural consequence of the business transactions, for which no criminality can be attributed to the accused," the High Court observed.

Government of Odisha, **"e"- Procurement Notice**
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.Dkl.(R&B)11/2025-26
Letter No.2462/ Dt.25/11/2025 Email Id- sedklpwd@gmail.com

The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road & Building works as detailed below :

1.	Name of the work	: **Road & Building works.**
2.	No of works	: **04 (Four) Nos**
3.	Estimated Cost	: **Rs.1.90 Crore to 8.39 Crore (as given in column No.03 of table)**
4.	Cost of tender paper	: **Rs.10,000.00**
5.	Class of contractor	: **'B' Class, 'A' Class & 'Special'Class (as given in column No.07 of table)**
6.	Period of Completion of work	: **06 (Six) to 09 (Nine) Calendar months (as given in column No.08 of table)**
7.	Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	: From **Dt.03.12.2025** to **5.00 P.M. of Dt.17.12.2025**
8.	Date of opening of bid	: **Dt.18.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M.**

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE biding only, further details can be seen from the e- Procurement Portal : **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
B-774: OIPR - 34132/11/0044/2526

ODISHA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY
BHUBANESWAR - 751003, ODISHA, INDIA
Email: registrar@ouat.ac.in; Visit us at: www.ouat.ac.in

OUAT-CT-PURCH-0001-2024 No.20934 /OUAT, Date: 02.12.2025

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed manufacturers (OEM) in single bid system for empanelment of suppliers for supply of chemicals & reagents, glasswares, plasticwares. filter paper, kits, other laboratory consumables and labwares and stockists for supply of gases/ gases with cylinder-regulator to different offices at Bhubaneswar and other locations of OUAT throughout Odisha. Firms having valid GST, PAN and supply network in India, preferably in Odisha may download the tender document from our official website **www.ouat.ac.in** and submit their offer along with all required documents through speed post or courier so as to reach the **Registrar, Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar by dt.23/12/2025 (upto 5.00 PM)**. For details of important information, terms and conditions, requirements, opening of bids, etc. please refer to the tender document available at **www://ouat.ac.in**.

Registrar,
O.U.A.T., Bhubaneswar-751003
KK-287: OIPR-01036/11/0090/2526

Government of Odisha
Sports & Youth Services Department
West Stand, Kalinga Hockey Stadium, Bhubaneswar 751012
Email: dept.sports@odisha.gov.in

Request for Proposal

Sports & Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha calls for bids from leading agencies to the RFP for supply of Generic sports kit for Athletes of Sports Hostel. The details of the document are available at the below mentioned website.

Website : tender.dsys@odisha.gov.in ; https://tendersodisha.gov.in/

Interested firms / parties / agencies are advised to study the RFP document carefully before submitting their bid.

Important Dates and Information :

Date of Publication - 02.12.2025
Last date and time for sending pre-bid queries - 08.12.2025
Pre-Bid Meeting- Date: 10.12.2025, Time:12.00 PM (to be held via video conferencing)
Link : To join the video meeting, click this link:
https://meet.google.com/qqq-ximr-amb
Last date and time submission of proposal - 23.12.2025,Time:2.00 PM
Opening of the Technical Bid -23.12.2025, Time: 4.00 PM

-Sd-
Commissioner-cum-Secretary
TT-: OIPR-29001/11/0117/2526

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER - (CALL-2)
(Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from registered Agencies for the following Works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 4th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Sl. No.	Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1	(South-West-1)	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/4104/2025-26 Dated: 01-12-2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A) Category)	1	Rs. 57,20,994/- / Rs. 57,300/-	12-12-2025 Upto 4.00 PM	15-12-2025 After 4.05 PM
		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/4104/2025-26 Dated: 01-12-2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A) Category)	2	Rs. 70,81,099/- / Rs. 70,900/-		
		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/4104/2025-26 Dated: 01-12-2025 (Reserved for CAT-II(A) Category)	3	Rs. 30,94,727/- / Rs. 31,000/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-West-1)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement Portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the above signed office during working hours. DIPR/CP/Adverto/4155/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)

Item wise tenders are invited through e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works:

(1) KPCL/2025-26/PM/WORK_INDENT3713. Dated: 22.11.2025. **Name of the work:** Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 2 sets of 220V, 2000Ah Capacity Lead Acid Tubular in Transparent SAN Container Battery Bank (Each set consists of 108 No of 2V, 2000 Ah Capacity Lead Acid Tubular Cells) with all accessories and necessary spares to retrofit the existing 2 sets of 220V, 2000 Ah Capacity Lead Acid Tubular in Transparent SAN Container (OPzS) Battery Banks of Unit 7 with buy back arrangement at RTPS.

(02) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3728. Dated: 25.11.2025. **Name of the work:** Strengthening of Seal Trough and Mother Plate for Unit-4 Bottom Ash Hopper.

(03) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3729. Dated: 25.11.2025. **Name of the work:** Providing, Dismantling & Replacement of 250/300 NB Pipes, Bends, Tees, Y-Lateral from Unit4 Ash Water Pump House to Bottom Ash Area.

(04) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3606/Call-2. Dated: 25.11.2025. **Name of the work:** Special assistance for Operation & Maintenance of Ash Handling Plant of Unit-2 to 4 and Unit-2 to 6 Bulker Silos for a period of One year (And extendable upto One year).

Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders:
for **Sl. No. 01:** 11.12.2025 upto 17:30 hrs. and for **Sl. No's.02, 03 & 04:** 10.12.2025 upto 16:00 hrs.

Further details can be had from:
for **Sl. No. 01:** Executive Engineer (GM-2), Mobile: +91 94495 96536 and for **Sl. No's.02, 03 & 04:** Executive Engineer (AHP-1), Mobile: +91 94495 96544.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
PROBATE C.P. No. 19/2025
IN THE MATTER OF THE WILL OF MR. K SURYANARAYANAN (DECEASED)

BETWEEN: 1.Ms. Vasantha Surya, Aged about 83 years, W/o Late Mr. Suryanarayanan, Residing at A-501, Vaishnavi Splendour, Ashwath Nagar, R.M.V Extension II Stage, Bangalore - 560094.
2. Ms. Sumati Surya, Aged about 57 years, W/o Mr. Sachindeo Vaidya, Residing at A 302, A Block, Vaishnavi Splendour, No.12, 3rd Cross, Poojari Layout, R.M.V Extension II Stage, Bangalore - 560094.
3. Mr. Arjun Surya, Aged about 62 years, S/o Late Mr. K Suryanarayanan, Residing at Flat No.6141, ATS One Hamlet, Sector 104, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh – 201304
Represented by his duly constituted Power of Attorney Holder Sumati Surya
...PETITIONERS
AND: -NIL- ...RESPONDENT

WHEREAS, the above Petitioners have filed a Petition under Section 276 and Section 300 Part IX of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 praying for grant of probate to the property and credits of the said deceased, with regard to the Will dated 25.02.2018, to the First Petitioner on behalf of all the Petitioners, in respect of the properties of the Deceased, Late Mr. K.Suryanarayanan, who died on 21st day of April 2025 and resided at A-501, Vaishnavi Splendour, Ashwath Nagar, R.M.V Extension II Stage, Bangalore - 560094.

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and that the said petition is posted for hearing on 06.01.2026 and all persons claiming to have any interest in the estate of the deceased may come and see the proceedings before the grant of probate to the property and credits of the deceased.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this is the **21st day of November 2025.**

By order of the Hon'ble Court, Asst. Registrar, High Court of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Counsel for Petitioners
B.V. Nidhishree, Advocate
Chambers: F-02, 2nd Floor, Benson Boulevard, No. 77/1, Nandidurga Road, Benson Town, Tel. – 080-41668469

Government of Karnataka
HAVERI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
Devagiri-Yallapura, Haveri-581110.
(Autonomous Institution of Government of Karnataka)
ಹಾವೇರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
ದೇವಗಿರಿ–ಯಲ್ಲಾಪುರ, ಹಾವೇರಿ–581110.
Website : https://himshaveri.karnataka.gov.in E-mail : tenders.hims.dme@gmail.com

ಸಂ.: ಹಿಮ್ಸ್/ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ'/17/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 01/12/2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Haveri Institute of Medical Science, Haveri invites Tender from eligible tenderers, for various man power service on outsource basis. The tenders shall submit tenders in two bid system procedures as per KTTp Act. The Tenders are required to submit two separate bids, one containing the Earnest Money Deposit and the details of their capability to undertake the tender which will be opened first and the second bid containing the price tender which will be opened only if the Tenderer is found to be qualified to execute the tendered project. Tenderers can download tender documents from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal.

01	Tender Publish Date	01/12/2025
02	Tender Approximate Value	Rs. 335,00,00 Lakhs
03	Pre-Bid Meeting Date	16/12/2025
04	Last date to apply for tender through KPP Portal	Date : 31/12/2025 4:30 PM
05	Technical Bid Opening Date	Date : 01/01/2026 4:30 PM
06	Technical Bid Documents Verification Date	It will be intimated
07	Financial Bid Opening Date	It will be intimated
08	EMD Amount	Rs. 3,35,386.00
09	E-Procurement Portal Processing Fees	As per **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** rules
	Officer in Charge and Contact Details	Dean and Director, Haveri Institute of Medical Science, Haveri Tel.: 08375-200015, Mob.: 8660990320

Sd/- **Dean and Director**
Haveri Institute of Medical Sciences, Haveri

SC gives go-ahead to Kerala to allot prison land to BrahMos unit

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

BATL is expected to develop a second manufacturing plant for BrahMos missile at the site.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday gave the green light for the Kerala government to allot land occupied for an open prison complex to BrahMos Aerospace Trivandrum Limited (BATL), an arrangement which will see inmates share the neighbourhood with supersonic cruise missiles.

"The allotment of land for BATL, which comes under the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) is intended for the expansion of BATL's existing operations, specifically for the establishment of a second manufacturing unit dedicated to advanced missiles and strategic hardware," the State submitted, winning the Supreme Court's permission.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, based on a positive report submitted by amicus curiae, senior advocate K. Parameshwar, agreed to the State's proposal to divide 257 acres of the sprawling 457-acre campus of the Nettukaltheri open prison among the BATL, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and a National Forensic Science University.

BATL would be apportioned 180 acres, SSB 45 acres to set up a battalion headquarters and 32 acres for the forensic varsity.

Lease expired

The Nettukaltheri open prison was established in 1964 on leased land. The lease expired in May 2014. Out of the original 487 acres, 12 acres were allocated to the Kerala Institute of Co-operative Management (KICMA) College in 2001 and 16 acres to the Dairy Development Department in 2022. There is also a proposal to allot one acre to the Thiruvananthapuram District Panchayat for settling a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant.

Kerala had submitted that the open prison utilised less than 100 acres for its core purposes. The remaining land was used for generating additional income through plantations, etc. The establishment of the SSB battalion headquarters in Kerala would meet a long-pending request of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

"This will give Kerala the permanent presence of a Central Armed Police Force, strengthen national security preparedness and provide employment and local development Opportunities," the State government acknowledged.

MP flags crisis claiming two lakh kirana stores shut down nation-wide

Kumar Naik welcomes the 30% procurement rule for Single Brand Retail under FDI norms as it strengthens sourcing from MSMEs, local producers

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

The Raichur MP said that small retail outlets served as anchors of community trust, local credit and everyday convenience. FILE PHOTO

Raichur MP G. Kumar Naik has accused the Union government of failing to protect traditional kirana stores from the aggressive expansion of e-commerce quick-delivery platforms, claiming that nearly two lakh small retail shops have shut down across the country in the last one year.

Raising the matter in the Lok Sabha during Question Hour on Tuesday, Mr. Naik said that small retailers are under severe strain due to predatory pricing and overwhelming competition from digital platforms.

He asked Union Minister of Commerce and Industry whether the government recognises the pressure on kirana owners, particularly regarding pricing, competition and long-term survival in a rapidly digitising economy.

"The government, in its reply, said that the sector is guided by market forces and existing laws and that aggrieved retailers can approach the Competition Commission of India (CCI). This response is deeply unrealistic as individual shopkeepers lack resources, legal access and time to fight prolonged battles against large corporations," he said in a note released on Tuesday.

Citing a report by the All India Consumer Products Distributors Federation (AICPDF), he said that almost two lakh kirana shops have closed in the last one year. "This is not a minor market shift, but a crisis affecting livelihoods, local economies and neighbourhood ecosystems," he said.

Mr. Naik said that the government continues to highlight the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) as its flagship intervention. But he pointed out that the platform has supported only 3,500 kirana stores, a negligible number when compared to the scale of closures.

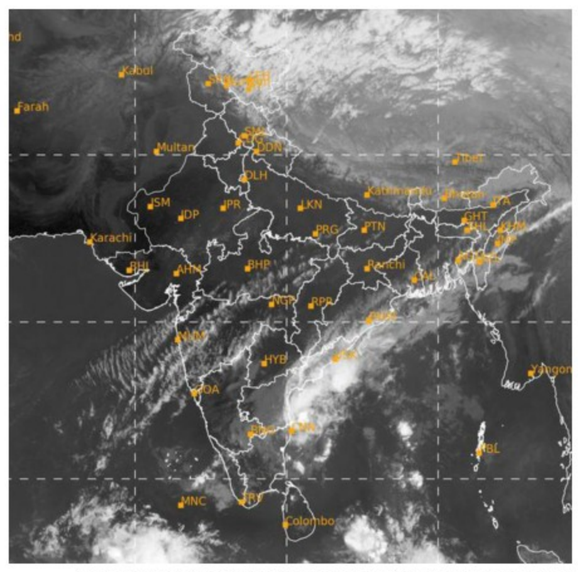
Welcoming the 30% procurement rule for Single Brand Retail under FDI norms as it will strengthen sourcing from MSMEs and local producers, Mr. Naik stressed the need for ensuring more than indirect protection for kirana shops.

"Kirana shops need direct safeguards, fairer competition rules and active measures to prevent predatory pricing. Without this, we will continue to see small retailers pushed out while large platforms consolidate their dominance," he said.

Emphasising the wider social impact, he said that small retail outlets served as anchors of community trust, local credit and everyday convenience. "We want our youth to become entrepreneurs and small business owners, not be restricted to precarious gig work without long-term prospects," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 15.15 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Cold wave conditions likely at isolated places over Punjab and Maharashtra. Dense fog likely at isolated pockets over Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	28.0	16.9	Kozhikode	16	32.4	25.1
Ahmedabad	—	30.0	16.5	Kurnool	—	32.4	22.1
Aizawl	—	25.7	12.1	Lucknow	—	25.7	9.0
Allahabad	—	26.5	11.0	Madurai	—	34.5	23.5
Bengaluru	—	26.6	19.2	Mangaluru	—	31.5	23.8
Bhopal	—	26.0	8.4	Mumbai	—	32.6	17.7
Bhubaneswar	—	28.2	20.0	Mysuru	—	31.0	16.8
Chandigarh	—	24.2	6.6	New Delhi	—	25.8	9.6
Chennai	17.4	26.1	22.9	Patna	—	25.7	14.6
Coimbatore	—	33.0	22.4	Port Blair	—	30.5	22.9
Dehradun	—	24.0	7.7	Puducherry	1	27.1	23.8
Gangtok	—	14.6	9.0	Pune	—	29.7	14.9
Goa	—	32.3	21.5	Raipur	—	28.8	15.5
Guwahati	—	27.4	16.6	Ranchi	—	24.6	12.7
Hubballi	—	31.0	19.0	Shillong	—	17.6	8.0
Hyderabad	—	28.8	18.3	Shimla	—	18.4	6.0
Imphal	—	24.5	11.9	Srinagar	—	13.6	-2.5
Jaipur	—	26.6	14.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.8	24.4
Kochi	—	29.8	25.8	Tiruchi	—	31.9	24.4
Kohima	—	21.0	9.2	Vijayawada	—	26.9	22.4
Kolkata	—	28.2	19.8	Visakhapatnam	—	26.8	21.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	32	107	29	261	—	
Bengaluru	5	13	103	44	82	
Chennai	15	21	12	77	59	
Delhi	117	137	105	418	402	
Hyderabad	4	30	89	149	116	
Kolkata	7	18	42	314	173	
Lucknow	8	51	28	214	141	
Mumbai	16	56	117	123	140	
Pune	14	68	98	260	208	
Visakhapatnam	12	37	44	136	114	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 395 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 17

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
O & M Zone, "Shakthi Soudha", Bondel, Mangalore - 575015
Ph: 0824-2425888 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425
No: CEE/MZ/SEE(O)/EE(C)/25-26/7604-16 Date: 19.11.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
MESCOM invites tenders for 5 Civil Engineering works from registered KPWD Contractors with EPF, ESI & GST registration in accordance with KTPP Act.
The interested eligible bidders may log on to website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **05.12.2025.** Details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.
DIPR/DK/KSMCA/1177/25-26 dt: 02.12.2025 **Sd/-, Chief Engineer (Ele.)**
For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

Govt. Of Karnataka
GOVT. GENERAL HOSPITAL, ALAND DIST: KALABURAGI
E-mail id- alandggh@gmail.com
No. GGHA/Tender/Dait/341/2025-26 Date: 27/11/2025
:: TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT ::
Tender has been invited this e-procrument platform for supply of good qualty prepared food (dietary food) and Bananas, Egg and Cofee/Tea to the in-patients of Government General Hospital, Aland for the year 2025-26. The tender period will be from the date of order to 31/03/2026 only. The estimated value of the total tender is 56,16,000/- (Fifty six Lakh Sixteen Thousand Rupees) per annum. The details of the tender are as follows.
Tender Details
1) Tender No : **DHFWS/2025-26/IND_____** Group A : READY FOOD, Group B : B R E A D FIRST CLASS, 2) E.M.D amount : **Rs. 140400/- (2.5%),** 3) Commencement of downloading of e-tender forms from website : **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in Date: 01-12-2025,** 4) Last Date for seeking clarification and purchasing Tender Form : **Date: 12-12-2025 up to 11:30:00PM**, 5) Last date for uploading of Tender in e-procurement plat form: Date: **26-12-2025 up to 05:00:00PM**, 5) Date & Time for Technical Bid Opening: **Date: 29-12-2025 at 04:30:00PM** at Office of the Govt. General Hospital, Aland Dist: Kalaburagi, 6) Date & Time for Financial Bid Opening.: **Date: 30-12-2025 at 12:30:00PM** at Office of the General Hospital, Aland Dist: Kalaburagi
Tenderers registered in e-Procurement may obtain information on tender processing fee, EMD amount tender processing dates etc. through the Karnataka Government's e-Procurement Portal website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on contact the undersigned during office hours.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/802/KSMC&A/2025-26 **Sd/- Chief Medical Officer, Govt. General Hospital, Aland**

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
TENDER/ RFP FOR Works
TENDER Notice Reference no. MCJ/OM/2025-26/29A and 159/CE/WS/G dated 2-12-25
THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION JALANDHAR INVITES ONLINE BIDS FOR:- 01 Works related to O&M of Sewerage System of West and North Constituency of Jalandhar City for Period of 3 Years. (Detailed RFP/Work will be Mentioned on Website)
Closing date & Time:- (2nd Attempt)
FOR SR.NO (1) 03-12-2025, 14:00PM Upto 23-12-2025, 14:00 PM
2 nos of Pre-Bid meetings will be held at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Complex, Nehru Garden rd, Main office, 2nd Floor Room no 62 10-12-2025 at 12:00PM & 17-12-2025 at 12:00PM
For details Log onto:- eproc.punjab.gov.in
Note: Any Corrigendum (s) to the Tender/ RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.
As per Govt. letter Refer. no JDDLG/PRU/DLG/2021/1018-23 Dt 13.05.2021
Corporation Engg.
2722/12/2025-26/5660 Municipal Corporation Jalandhar

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase immovable property being vacant site bearing Site No. 616, PID No. 82-24-616, situated at Binnamangala II Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore, measuring E-W : 27+ 48 ½ /2, ft and N-S : 83+ 87/2 feet, totally measuring 3,208.75 sq ft and bounded on **East by:** Site No. 617, **West by:** 30 feet Road, **North by:** Site No. 624/A, **South by:** 30 feet Road, from its owners **1) Mr. J.ROSHAN LOUIS, 2) Mr. MARSHAN JOHN LOUIS,** both Son's of Mr. J. John Louis, Both residing at No.99, 2 Main Road, 3d Cross, Defence Colony, Indiranagar, B'lore-08,. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.
H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO & H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bengaluru-01, Mob. 9341380225

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES BANGALORE NAAC A+ Accredited
Estate Office, Naik Bhavan, GKVK, Bengaluru-560065
Phone: GKVK : 2330153-250, Direct : 23332765
Email: eo@uasbangalore.edu.in Website:www.uasbangalore.edu.in
No. EO/SPO/e-Proc/11/2025-26 Date:01-12-2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal Only)
The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per the Standard tender document KG-1, and KG-2, from the reputed firms for the procurement of Equipment's.
Blank Tender Documents can be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**, **Last date and time for uploading the tender on 15-12-2025 up to 4.00 p.m. The Technical bid will be opened on 17-12-2025 at 10.30 a.m. The Financial bid will be opened on 20-12-2025 at 10.30 a.m.** in the Tender Committee room of Estate Office. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours and also refer UAS Website: **www.uasbangalore.edu.in.** Help Desk-91-8046010000, +91-8068948777 **support@eprochelpdesk.com.** The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.
DIPR/CP/JA/4153/2025-26 **Sd/- ESTATE OFFICER**

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Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, KASHISH Sandeep Gagat W/o Ahasan Naseeb, R/a No.60, Venkateshwar Telegraph Street, K.G.Halli, Venkateshapura, Bengaluru-560045 have changed my name to Asfiya vide affidavit dt: 02.12.2025 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, B'luru.
Public Notice: We, Lakshmikanthe Gowda B C (Father) and Sharada R (Mother), hereby declare the correction of our names in our Son Vishwas B L's SSLC marks card. Father's name was wrongly printed as Lakshmikantha B C, and Mother's name as Sharadha R. Correct names are as stated.
I, Batturi Phani Madhuri, daughter of Pattikonda Vijaya Lakshmi aged about 47 years residing at Flat No: B-401, Mantri Serentinity, Opposite City Engineering College Kanakpura Road, Bengaluru declare that my Daughter Named B.Sai Sri Sidhvitha (old name) aged about 17 years here after changed to Batturi Sai Sri Sidhvitha (New name) for all purpose. I state that both the names are of the same person.
I, Sangeetha W/O, Christy Philip A R/o Prakruthi Township, Babusapalya, Bangalore-43 have changed my name to Arokya Mary Sangeetha vide affidavit dated 22/06/2010 sworn before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Blr

SITUATION VACANT
TECHNICAL
WANTED! B.E /B.Tech /Diploma– Electrical /ITI – Candidates for our Projects, Please send your CV to projects2@gskpowertech.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, JAYALAKSHMI Shivanand Hondadakeri, D/o Shankappa, R/a #38, 1st Cross, SVGNSS Layout, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079 hereby state that both the names Jayalakshmi Shivanand Hondadakeri and Jaya S, both the names belongs to one and the same person i.e., me only vide affidavit dt: 28.06.2025 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'lore.

LEGAL NOTICE
FORM No. 18
Notice for appearance in Appeal Order 41 Rule 14 CPC, and Rule 1, 2, 4 and 11 of Chapter IV Karnataka High Court Rules
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Notice to the R-2 & 4 vide order dated: 19.11.2025
R.S.A. No. 1496/2018
Doddegowda, ...Appellants
(By Sri. Vivek Holla and Ors - Advs)
-V/s-
Adi Chunchanagiri Education Trust, Rep. by its President, Sri. Jagath Guru Bala Gangadhara Natha Swamiji and Ors., **...Respondents**
(By Smt. Bhavana .G.K., and Ors., - Advs for R-1)
(By AGA Adv for R-5)
(as per order dated 03.09.2025)
TO: R-2. SRI GAJANANA VOKKALINGARA PUBLIC STUDENTS HOSTEL, Office at Nelamangala Town, Rep. by its President Sri. V. Gangappa - 562123.
R-4. SRI. A.C. SIDDAPPA, S/o A.V. Chikkegowda, R/at Adakamarana Halli, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk-562123.
Appeal from the Judgment and decree dated 26.02.2018 passed in R.A. No. 434/2012 on the file of the VII Addl. District and Sessions Judge, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru.
Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court either in person or through Counsel duly instructed or through some one authorised by law, to act for you in the above appeal **on 19.12.2025 at 10.30 am** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.
Issued under my hand and the seal of this court, this the 19th Day of November, 2025.
By Order of the Court
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, SUHAS Srinath, residing at No.15, Sri Ramayya Layout, Medahalli, KR Puram, Bangalore – 560049, have lost the following original property documents: Registered Sale Deed – Doc No. 2750/1967–68 Registered Gift Deed – Doc No. 5200/2016–17, CD No. KRID585 Registered Gift Deed – Doc No. 5201/2016–17, CD No. KRID585 If found, please contact: 8618408304.

SECTION-I - LETTER OF INVITATION
Office of the Commissioner,
BRAHMAPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, BERHAMPUR, PIN - 760001
Letter No. No. 17734 / RFP No. Dt. /11/2025 Date :28/11/25
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) For Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Sewerage System of Brahmapur Municipal Corporation, in the District of Ganjam, Odisha.
1. Proposals are invited to conduct the assignment and submit the deliverables from Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies / consulting firms that have requisite experience in preparation of DPR for sewerage system and to submit their proposals (hard copy) in respect of the Project **"Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Sewerage System of Brahmapur Municipal Corporation, in the District of Ganjam, Odisha"**, in accordance with the formats, terms and conditions of the RFP and on the basis of National Competitive bidding for the work detailed in the table given below, More details on the proposed details are provided at **Section-3: Terms of Reference (ToR)** of this RFP Document. The firm is advised to examine carefully all instructions in the RFP Document.
2. The RFP will be available for download, at **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. All Bidders must submit a sum of **Rs.11, 800/-** (Rupees Eleven thousand Eight Hundred only) towards the cost of the RFP Document in the form of Online Remittance. This is inclusive of GST and eligible amount as Bid Security by Online Remittance along with the Proposals per the conditions out line in this RFP.
3. A bidder / consultant will be selected under **Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** procedure as prescribed in the RFP Document in accordance with the procedures prescribed herewith circulated vide Office Memorandum **No.37323/F, Dated:30.11.2018** of Finance Department, Govt. of Odisha.
4. The proposal completes in all respect as specified in the RFP Document must be accompanied with the proof of remitting Bid Processing Fees & EMD failing which the bid will be rejected.
5. The complete RFP document can be viewed /downloaded from the portal **https://tendersodisha.gov.in from dt.29.11.2025, 11:00 AM to 12.12.2025 up to 05:00 PM.**
6. The last date and time for submission of proposal complete in all respects is **12.12.2025 up to 05:00 PM**, the date of Opening of the Technical Proposal is **dt. 16.12.2025 at 04:30 AM,** in the presence of the bidder's representative at the specified address as mentioned in the Bidder Data Sheet **(Sl. No.15)**. Representatives of the bidders may attend the meeting with due authorization letter on behalf of the bidder.
This RFP includes following sections:
a. Letter of Invitation **[Section-1]**
b. Information to the Bidder **[Section-2]**
c. Terms of Reference **[Section-3]**
d. Technical Proposal Submission Forms **[Section-4]**
e. Financial Proposal Submission Forms **[Section-5]**
f. Annexure **[Bid Submission Checklist & Performance Bank Guarantee Format and any other relevant assignment related material needs to be provided]**
7. All information / data given in the RFP are reasonable within the consideration of scope of the proposed assignment to the best of the Client's knowledge, the Client holds no responsibility for accuracy of information and it is the responsibility of the bidder / consultant to check the validity of information / data included in this RFP. The Client reserves the right to accept / reject any / all proposals/ cancel the entire selection process at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.
Interested bidders may download the Request for Proposal Documents (the **"RFP"** document) from the above website to see further details for participation in the online bidding.
Commissioner, Brahmapur Municipal Corporation.
C-1640: OIPR-13035/11/0072/2526

GOVT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
1. **ECHS** invites applications to engage one **Medical** officer on contractual basis in **ECHS Polyclinic Tumkur & Extension Counter Jalahalli, Bangalore** for a period of one year renewable for additional period of one year/ till attaining the maximum age subject to performance of candidates/ other conditions according to the criteria as mentioned against each post:

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Total		01	

2. **For terms & conditions, Application Form & Remuneration:** Kindly see our website **www.echs.gov.in.** For additional details, please contact Station HQ (ECHS Cell) Jalahalli at telephone No. 080-23451032 and email ID: stnhqjalahalli410@gmail.com. Also approach concerned Stn HQ/ECHS Polyclinic for details. Preference will be given to Ex-servicemen.
3. **Last date for receipt of application as per format given at our website:** Application as per requisite format along with self attested photo copies of testimonials in support of education qualifications and work experience will be submitted to OIC Station HQ ECHS Cell, C/o Air Force Station Jalahalli, Bangalore (KA)-560013 by **23/12/2025** in duplicate. Any applications received after last date will not be accepted.
4. **Interview Date, Timing & Venue:** Candidates must reach Station HQ ECHS Cell, Jalahalli (East) at **07:30 hrs on 26/12/2025** for the interview to be held **between 09:00 hrs to 14:30 hrs.** Candidates must bring all original documents certificates/Marks Sheet /Degree of 10th/Matric, 12th & Graduation /Post Graduation /Diploma/Course, work experience and discharge book, PPO, service records and two Passport size colour photographs at the time of interview. No TA/DA is admissible. Only candidates meeting the Qualitative Requirements may apply.

Zero stars

Mandating the Sanchar Saathi app to tackle cybercrime is an overkill

The growing sophistication of cybercrimes, from "digital arrests" to anonymous, large-scale cross-border scams, has made tackling them both urgent and difficult. Cybercriminals have exploited a security gap wherein user accounts on instant messaging apps remain functional even after the associated SIM card has been removed, using this anonymity to conduct government impersonation fraud. The rampant use of spoofed or tampered IMEI numbers has also made tracking perpetrators nearly impossible for law enforcement. It is perhaps inevitable that the government seeks sharper tools to address these software and hardware vulnerabilities, which explains the Department of Telecommunications' directives on November 28 and December 1. The first mandates "SIM binding" – ensuring that a user's account is disabled if the physical SIM is removed. In the second, smartphone manufacturers must pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app to verify device authenticity in all new devices by March 2026. While the first directive is a security patch which could inconvenience WhatsApp/Internet messaging users, the second is reminiscent of the saying, the road to hell is often paved with good intentions. The solution to the problem of counterfeit handsets and spoofed IMEI numbers is a cure that could potentially be more damaging than the disease.

The explicit instruction in the directive that the app is "readily visible and accessible to the end users at the time of first use or device setup and that its functionalities are not disabled or restricted" would mean that this app will be given a higher security clearance within the phone's operating system, allowing it more intrusive access to features such as camera, phone or SMS access. The potential for misuse of this app for state surveillance and being utilised by a malicious entity after compromise to target millions of users is very present and clear. This is no empty fear considering what the Union government has done with the use of Pegasus software to target the political opposition, journalists and activists. Notwithstanding Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia's clarification that users could delete the app, the directive's text mandating that it cannot be disabled suggests that it will function more as a Panopticon and less as a simple verification tool. As the Supreme Court's K.S. Puttaswamy (2017) judgment established, any state intrusion into privacy must satisfy the tests of legality, necessity, and proportionality. The government already possesses less intrusive means to verify device genuineness. The Sanchar Saathi web portals, SMS-based checks, and USSD codes should suffice. By ignoring these less invasive alternatives, the directive on Sanchar Saathi fails the proportionality standard. It is little wonder that privacy-conscious manufacturers such as Apple have reportedly refused to comply with this order.

Speed bumps ahead

The third quarter is unlikely to bring cheer for the economy

The last few days have shown just what a roller coaster of a ride India's economic data can take. Last Friday's robust Q2 GDP growth, a six-quarter high of 8.2%, lifted the government's mood and brought cheer to its supporters. The relatively low nominal growth rate and grade by the IMF did little to dampen this feeling. However, the latest data on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and, to an extent, the manufacturing PMI are likely to do more in that regard. The IIP's growth in October 2025 was just 0.4%, a 14-month low. While the GDP data for the July-September quarter showed the manufacturing sector growing 9.1%, the IIP showed the sector had slowed to a 14-month low of 1.8% in October. One of the possible reasons for this is that the GDP growth rate was boosted by a low base, since the sector had grown just 2.2% in the July-September 2024 quarter. The other, more troubling reason, is the impact of the U.S.'s tariffs. Merchandise exports grew in September, the first full month of 50% tariffs, as earlier orders were being fulfilled. They then contracted nearly 12% in October as the tariffs began to weigh on new order decisions. The PMI data, too, showed that the score for India's manufacturing sector stood at a nine-month low of 56.6 in November. The report specifically mentioned that new export orders rose at their slowest pace in over a year, another sign that the U.S.'s tariffs were hurting.

While subdued exports likely weighed on the manufacturing sector, the change in weather towards winter and prolonged rains pulled down the electricity and mining sectors, respectively. As a result, the primary goods sector contracted in October. The GDP data had shown that investment had grown by a reasonably strong 7.3% in Q2. However, the IIP data suggest this could have slowed in the beginning of Q3 with the capital goods sector growing at a 14-month low of 2.4%. The IIP data also have some concerning news regarding household consumption. The GDP data showed that Private Final Consumption Expenditure grew at nearly 8% in Q2. However, the IIP showed that the consumer durables and non-durables sectors contracted in October, in aggregate their worst performance in two years. This was the first full month of data following the GST rate rationalisation. GST revenue of ₹1.7 lakh crore in November, reflecting economic activity in October, also shows that demand did not come rushing in as fast as the government would have liked. Taken together, multiple initial metrics are indicating that Q3 is not likely to be a cheerful quarter for the economy.

The dismal state of India's environment

Sonia Gandhi

is Chairperson, Congress Parliamentary Party

The Aravalli range, which runs from Gujarat through Rajasthan and till Haryana, has long played a significant role in Indian geography and history. It has served as a barrier to the spread of desertification from the Thar Desert to the Gangetic Plains, guarded Rajasthan's proudest forts such as Chittorgarh and Ranthambore, and served as the cradle of spirituality for communities across northwest India. The Modi Government has now nearly signed a death warrant for these hills, already denuded by illegal mining. It has declared that any hills in the range with an elevation of less than 100 metres are not subject to the strictures against mining. It is an open invitation for illegal miners and mafias to finish off 90% of the range which falls below the height limit set by the Government.

On the northernmost end of the Aravalli range, the national capital has embarked on its annual smog season this month. A hazy mist of dust, smoke and particulate matter has been settling down on millions of citizens as they go about their daily lives breathing in toxic air. Even as the smog becomes a part of our yearly routine, research increasingly shows that it is a full-scale, slow-motion public health tragedy. Estimates of the human toll of this pollution go as high as 34,000 deaths in just 10 cities annually.

These are not disparate events

Last week the news headlines reflected yet another evolving tragedy. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has reported that 13%-15% of tested groundwater samples in Delhi contain uranium beyond the permissible limit for human consumption. Shamefully, water samples from Punjab and Haryana reflect even higher levels of uranium contamination. One does not need to dwell on the frightening health implications that regular consumption of such water for daily activities can have on impacted populations.

These news items cannot be seen disparately. They are each causes and consequences of a crisis that has engulfed India in the last decade: a deep-seated and continuing disregard for the environment in government policymaking.

Ever since coming to power, the Modi Government has displayed a particularly venal streak of cynicism in relation to environmental protection, combining its proclivity to encourage the reckless exploitation of natural resources with a callous disregard for consequences on the environment. The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023 exempted large categories of land and projects from forest clearance rules, easing diversion for other purposes.

> There is a deep-seated and continuing disregard for the environment in government policymaking

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification 2020 sought to dilute public hearings, expand exemptions and reduce compliance reporting. The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification 2018 eased construction rules along India's shorelines, opening ecologically sensitive coastal areas and fishing communities' habitats to commercial real estate and industrial activity. The Environment Ministry has more often been in the news for circumventing due process and weakening regulations rather than implementing them or taking proactive measures to halt the slide.

High-publicity initiatives such as the National Clean Air Programme have largely been underfunded, and even the funds allocated have not been utilised. The disclosure of the electoral bonds data, as a result of the Supreme Court of India's verdict last year, then proved that many of these environmental clearances and policy shifts were made in the light of donations by large corporate groups to the ruling party. Can policymaking be so blatantly up for sale, to benefit the profit lines of a very few at the cost of the well-being of future generations, and of the planet?

Acting against local communities

Another emerging trend has been an insidious tendency to pit the environment against the local communities that protect it, when politically convenient for the Government. The Forest Survey of India has been mischievously attributing the loss of forest cover over the last decade to the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Shockingly, even the Minister concerned has echoed the same claims. In June 2024, the National Tiger Conservation Authority called for the eviction of almost 65,000 families from tiger reserves across the country. It was not just a breach of the spirit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 which mandates that all relocations must be voluntary; it was also unnecessarily inimical, ranging the environment against local communities.

India needs a new deal for the environment.

First, we must resolve to do no further harm. We must halt the large-scale deforestation that is planned or currently underway across the country: in Great Nicobar, in north Chhattisgarh's Hasdeo Aranya, and in Madhya Pradesh's Dhirauli. We need to crackdown on the rampant illegal mining in the Aravalli range and other eco-sensitive regions such as the Western Ghats. We need to put an end to the indiscriminate destruction of mountains in the Himalayan belt, which has exacted a heavy toll in human lives these past few years.

Review laws and policies

On a policy level, we need to urgently review the laws and policy changes of the last decade which have led us down this disastrous path. The Modi Government must withdraw the amendments it bulldozed through Parliament in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as well as the Forest Conservation Rules (2022) – which are anti-Adivasi and allow the clearing of forests without consulting those who live there. The blatantly illogical and dangerous practice of providing post-facto environmental clearances to big corporations that violate environmental laws – one of the Modi Government's few home-grown policy innovations – cannot continue. The National Green Tribunal, which has been systematically weakened by vacancies, must be restored to its pride of place and be allowed to function independently of government policy and pressure. As a polity, we need to operate with greater inter-governmental coordination on environmental matters. The air pollution crisis in the NCR requires a whole-of-government approach as well as a regional airshed approach, just like the groundwater uranium contamination issue. On environmental matters, if nowhere else, the Modi Government must demonstrate a spirit of cooperative federalism.

Finally, as a philosophy, India's environmental policies must be guided by a deference to the rule of law, a commitment to work with rather than against local communities, and an understanding of the inextricable relationship between environment and human development. It is only with such a worldview that we can build a safer, healthier, and more resilient India for the 21st century.

A template for security cooperation in the Indian Ocean

Harsh V. Pant

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On November 20, 2025, India hosted the 7th National Security Advisor-level summit of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC). India's National Security Adviser, Ajit Doval, hosted his counterparts from other member-countries, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Mauritius and Bangladesh, while counterparts from Seychelles and Malaysia were observer state and guest, respectively. The CSC has sought to position itself as a critical forum to promote and foster cooperation in the domain of security in the Indian Ocean region.

Initiated as a trilateral grouping between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives in 2011, the group lost steam in light of the political transition in the Maldives and Sri Lanka, and lack of convergence among the member-states to identify priorities in security cooperation in the Indian Ocean. The group reconvened its engagement under the aegis of the CSC in 2020, a proposed framework to further cooperation in maritime security, counter-terrorism, trafficking and organised crime and cybersecurity. Since then, the group has remained steady in not just maintaining momentum among its member-states but also inducting countries. In 2022, Mauritius joined as a full member, while in 2024, the group saw the admission of Bangladesh.

A region witnessing shifts

For India, the summit, in 2025, comes at a pivotal moment. Frameworks of cooperation in the maritime domain, in the broader Indo-Pacific, and indeed in the Indian Ocean appear to be undergoing a crucial shift. Given the focus of the CSC on non-traditional issues of maritime security, it is vital to bolster cooperation in mitigating the looming challenges. While the Indian Ocean maritime security architecture remains fragmented due to the lack of any singular institutional framework, groups such as the CSC must remain committed to enhancing cooperation in this regard.

> There are encouraging signs that member-country engagement is deepening in the Colombo Security Conclave, but challenges remain

The issue of development

Importantly, for the wider Indian Ocean littoral world, and especially the members of the CSC, maritime security challenges are often coupled with their developmental priorities.

Given the extent of dependency these countries have on the oceans for their economic progress, securing challenges emanating from the maritime domain is crucial. In many ways, maritime security challenges are deeply intertwined with the lives and livelihoods of not just the littoral communities in these countries but also appear to unlock new opportunities for their national economies in today's era of sea-borne globalisation.

This year's summit has been crucial in many ways. First, the group saw further expansion by way of accession of Seychelles as a full-member into the forum. This signals a deep commitment among countries in the region to harness cooperation within the mandate of the CSC. Second, for India, the CSC also marks a new step in further deepening engagement with its maritime neighbours, amidst an increasingly volatile geopolitical and security shift that appears to be underway in the region in lieu of China's growing presence and influence.

Third, the summit further underscores the growing vitality of the security dimension in enhancing cooperation to boost regional cooperation in the Indian Ocean.

Fourth, the inclusion of Malaysia in this year's summit as a guest participant may pave the way for further expansion of the group.

Viewing the China factor

However, as the CSC envisages its expansion and broadening the contours of its agenda, some key challenges appear to be looming. First, for India, a key maritime security priority is anchored in the nature and extent of the Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean. On the other hand, the other member countries of the CSC appear to not view the Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean as a major security challenge given their dependence on Beijing as a key developmental partner. Therefore, a careful balance needs to be achieved by India to address the question of growing Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean.

Second, the CSC must direct efforts to strengthen an institutional framework. At present, the group operates at a National Security Adviser-level structure. With growing synergies among its member-countries, the group must seek to institutionalise cooperation such that it remains consistent in aligning policies with actionable pathways of cooperation.

Third, domestic uncertainties in countries such as Bangladesh, and the ensuing impact on how Dhaka continues to engage with India and the other member-countries may run the risk of uncertainty over the group's resilience.

Given this context, the CSC has made significant advances in heralding a new framework of cooperation in a region that suffers from a deep lack of cohesion and convergence among countries on issues of security. Efforts to imagine the way ahead must remain anchored in the need to foster institutional resilience and cohesion among its member-countries.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sanchar Saathi app

The Department of Telecom's surreptitiously-issued directive to manufacturers of mobile phones to preinstal the Sanchar Saathi app — loosely translated as 'communication companion — is concerning and troubling. The government's clarification that its use is voluntary has not put concerns to rest. The freedom to activate, deactivate and delete the app seems to have been announced as an afterthought in the wake of public furore over the retrograde move. Why it is not left to mobile users to install or not install the app raises suspicions. It is significant that the so-called cybersecurity app is state-owned. People are not quite convinced that the purpose is not to prevent digital fraud and cybercrimes and ensure digital security. As the matter pertains to a possible violation of the right to privacy enjoyed by a large section of the population and the cons outweigh the pros, the government must roll back the ill-thought-out and contentious move forthwith.

G. David Milton,
Maruthancode, Tamil Nadu

The rollout of the app is reminiscent of the advent of Pegasus. By dint of the government's stout denial and the lack of technical proof, Pegasus flew under the radar of public scrutiny, but the spyware is probably out there still, doing its job. Sanchar Saathi is being labelled as a visible regulatory/anti-fraud tool. But the fact is that user consent and autonomy are removed. It has privacy and surveillance risks. There is potential misuse of data, lack of transparency or safeguards, and an infringement on fundamental rights. One has a sense of revisiting George Orwell's novel, *1984*.

R. Thomas Paul,
Bengaluru

The government's move may be a decisive step against digital fraud, but its abrupt enforcement raises questions. While citizens undeniably need protection from rising cybercrimes, security cannot become a 'one-size-fits-all' prescription. Many fear that compulsory installation may gradually blur the line between safety and surveillance, which cannot be brushed aside. India's digital ecosystem is already fragile; adding another layer without transparent safeguards may only amplify public distrust. What is needed is informed consent, clear data-use policies, and an accountability framework. Technology should empower people, not make them feel that they are under surveillance.

Mohammad Hasnain,
Muzaffarpur, Bihar

Name change

The unproductive measure of changing the names of Raj Bhavans as Lok Bhavans is not going to change the mindset of their occupants. Mere name change is not going to bring in any improvements in the conduct of Governors who behave as if they are above the Constitution and rule of law.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

Parliament and business

The top leader said that the winter session 'must not become a stage for political theatrics' but a platform for constructive and result-driven debate (Inside pages, December 2). Quite true. But the problem is one wonders whether the leader follows what he preaches. Does he allow discussion or debate on issues such as the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, internal security lapses, challenges posed to India's foreign policy and so on, as demanded by the Opposition? Or, does his government pass the Bills after discussion or debate? The top leader also said that defeat should not be a reason for disruption in the House.

In the same vein, Parliament should not be the place for the ruling party to celebrate political victory. The top leader talks about inclusiveness, but in Parliament, this is missing.

D. Sethuraman,
Chennai

Word of the year

Over the last decade, Oxford's Word of the Year choices have shown an unmistakable shift in how digital habits shape the way we think and behave. Seen against this pattern, 'rage bait', chosen for 2024, feels extremely realistic. It reflects what many of us experience daily. My own sense is that the spread of rage bait says more about our mental environment than about the language itself.

Vijay Singh Adhikari,
Nainital, Uttarakhand

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Privacy in a 'fishbowl society'

Aastha Tiwari

Assistant Professor (Law) and PhD scholar, Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai

Shweta Bhuyan

Research Assistant (Law) and PhD scholar, Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai

In the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI), technology is a double-edged sword, with users grappling with the trade-offs between convenience and privacy. While India has a normative privacy framework in terms of the *Puttaswamy* judgment (2017); the Information Technology Act, 2000 and its Intermediary Guidelines; and the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, and Rules, the reality of privacy remains opaque.

We now live in a fishbowl society where we are gauging 'harm' from a myopic lens of privacy and dignity instead of obscurity. As Meredith Broussard notes in her book *Artificial Unintelligence*, society's over-reliance on technology is leaving us ill-prepared to cope with the very systems we have built. This not only exposes individuals to the risks of data breach but also pushes them into obscurity, especially in cases of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse (NCII), where algorithms generate deepfake pornographic images without one's knowledge or control. Regulating such an assault is an urgent legal and policy imperative. The conventional frameworks for addressing such abuses are inadequate. Traditional approaches often describe risks of any such surveillance as loss of privacy, when in reality it is many more things as well: anxiety, chronic fear of being watched, victim blaming and shaming, societal stigma, career stagnation, permanent loss of autonomy, and bodily integrity.

Laws are not enough

Surprisingly, despite cybercrimes being on the rise, there is no contemporary data on NCII. Data of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) puts all cybercrimes in one category, without any granular classification of specific offences. We filed an Right to Information application on October 3, 2025 seeking information on the number of cases registered in the previous year relating specifically to cyberbullying and cybervoyeurism, along with the gender-wise distribution of victims. After more than a month, the Ministry responded that "law and order" and "police" fall under the State List, and therefore, the most appropriate authority to furnish such information would be the respective State governments.

This shows that mere legal provisions are not sufficient to address the realities of online abuse. Accessibility, awareness, and social acceptance of these laws play an equally critical role in determining their effectiveness. A significant share of young women are unaware of what offences such as voyeurism or deepfake porn legally entail. The lack of digital literacy is compounded by deep-rooted social stigma, shame, and fear of blame, which often deter victims from reporting. In extreme cases, this has driven some survivors to self-harm.

Going beyond an SOP

On November 11, 2025, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to curb the circulation of NCII. These guidelines mandate that such content must be taken down within 24 hours of reporting and seek to safeguard the "digital dignity" and privacy of women by offering multiple platforms for complaints. This is a welcome and long-awaited step. However, an SOP is only the starting point. Its effectiveness depends on being backed by strong capacity-building programmes, stakeholder consultations, and strengthening of enforcement agencies.

A key limitation lies in the absence of a gender-neutral framework. Studies show that transgender persons, particularly transwomen, are disproportionately targeted through deepfake-based harassment. Yet the SOP is silent on transgender victims, overlooking the Supreme Court's recognition of transgender persons as the "third gender" entitled to equal rights. Further, it does not establish clear accountability mechanisms, define the quantum of punishment, or articulate specific regulations for deepfake generation, dissemination, and tracing. Thus, having a dedicated law on NCII is the need of the hour – one that goes beyond the traditional focus on actus reus and mens rea and emphasises explicit duties on platforms, AI developers, and intermediaries, more specific and comprehensive than the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rule, 2025.

With the proliferation of AI-generated deepfakes, mainly used to harass, shame, and silence victims (mostly women), privacy is increasingly shaped and threatened by technological capabilities rather than legal protections. The lack of procedural safeguards, traceability norms, and independent oversight mechanisms has allowed such crimes to go unreported and unpunished for years, even as their frequency and severity escalate. These challenges raise an important question: Is an SOP enough?

Lack of awareness of rights or even of what "voyeurism" or "revenge porn" legally constitutes, inadequate sensitisation of police officials, victim-blaming, and deficient cyber-investigative capacity further dilute the impact of existing laws. As NGOs and research studies highlight, thousands of cases are filed daily across India, yet convictions remain disproportionately low. In this context, while the SOP is a crucial first step, a meaningful response to NCII and deepfake harms requires gender-neutral reforms, police training, capacity building, platform accountability, AI-specific safeguards, and stronger victim-centric legal mechanisms.

The government has issued Standard Operating Procedures to curb the circulation of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Abuse. But this is only a starting point

Tackling Kerala's mental health challenge

Kerala is one of the States with the highest suicide rates in the country

STATE OF PLAY

B. Ekbal

Deaths by suicide have become a subject of discussion in Kerala. The topic entered public discourse after several individuals, including police officers, ended their lives due to political and administrative pressures. There is no doubt that those responsible for the immediate causes of these tragedies must be held accountable. However, this debate cannot be restricted to politics alone; we must acknowledge that the underlying cause of the rising suicide rate is the fragile mental health of the Kerala population, and adopt urgent remedial measures.

Kerala has among the highest suicide rates in the country. According to the 2022 National Crime Records Bureau report, the national average suicide rate per one lakh population was 12.4, while in Kerala, it was 28.5. Only Sikkim (43.1) ranked higher.

Studies conducted on the mental health status of Kerala's population present a worrying picture. There was a dramatic increase in mental health issues, from 272 per thousand in 2008 to 400 per thousand by 2018, as stated by the 2021 study, 'The burden of mental health illnesses in Kerala: a secondary analysis of reported data from 2002 to 2018', conducted by Jaison Joseph, D. Hari Shankar and Devaki Nambiar. This suggests that a vast section of Kerala's population is facing severe mental health challenges, with an estimated 12% suffering from severe mental illnesses that necessitate hospital treatment and care. The contrast with the national trend is stark, where the number of individuals with mental health issues either decreased or remained stable in the same period. This suggests that while the mental health sector has seen progress nationally, the problem has intensified in Kerala. The National Mental Health Survey 2015-16 too shows that rates of depression, anxiety disorders, and suicidal tendencies are significantly higher in the State than the national average. Further, Kerala's poor mental health status is a primary contributing factor to growing social evils, such as drug addiction, violence against women, alcoholism, aggression/violence, and superstitions.

Resolving this crisis requires the implementation of comprehensive mental health programmes from childhood to old age. Health programmes in educational institutions need to be revamped to protect both mental and physical health, providing students with necessary health education. The functioning of existing counselling centres at the school and college levels needs to be scientifically evaluated. Teachers and parents need to receive training, and counsellors need to undergo refresher training appropriate for the modern age. The operations of the Health Department, medical colleges, hospitals such as the Mental Health Centre in Thiruvananthapuram and the Government Mental Health Centre in Kozhikode, the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Kozhikode, and the State Mental Health Authority need coordination and strengthening. Also, the services offered by the private sector and voluntary mental health organisations need to be strategically utilised to broaden the support network.

Critically, the severe shortage of mental health practitioners requires attention. While the recommended global norm is three professionals each per 10,000 people (Psychiatrists, Clinical Psychologists, Psychiatric Social Workers, and Rehabilitation Workers), the actual numbers in Kerala are distressingly low: 0.12, 0.06, 0.006, and 1, respectively. Urgent steps, such as increasing the number of seats in existing courses and launching new programmes in additional centres, are necessary to bridge this deficiency in trained manpower.

Kerala does not accord the same priority to mental health issues that it gives to communicable and non-communicable lifestyle diseases, and the surge in the suicide rate is a direct consequence of this neglect. Given that the increase in deaths by suicide have become a widespread topic of debate, society must recognise this problem as a major public health crisis. The government, the Health Department, health experts, and professional organisations need to advance comprehensive and long-term action plans to improve mental health.

B. Ekbal is an academic, a neurosurgeon, and a public health expert. Email: ekbalb@gmail.com.

People in distress or having suicidal thoughts can seek counselling by calling the suicide prevention helpline number: DISHA - 0471-2552056, 1056

Delhi can stop blaming farm fires for its pollution woes

Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana is at a five-year low, yet Delhi's pollution is peaking

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

The paddy harvesting season for 2025 officially ended on November 30. Punjab and Haryana recorded a 90% reduction in stubble burning incidents this year compared to 2021. In fact, farm fires in the two States declined to their lowest levels in five years in 2025. However, pollution levels in Delhi remained stubbornly high, triggering protests last month. This disparity shows that local sources remain the primary driver of the capital's persistent pollution crisis.

Notably, the Supreme Court on Monday suggested that farmers could not be made scapegoats for air pollution in the national capital. The Court also asked why blue skies were visible during the pandemic years when stubble burning was relatively high and vehicles were off the roads. The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)'s assessment of Delhi's early winter trends and annual air quality confirms this reality: Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) can no longer hide behind the smokescreen of farm fires.

The incidence of crop burning has substantially reduced in Punjab and Haryana this year, partly due to the massive floods in Punjab during the monsoon. In the October-November period, the daily contribution of farm fires to pollution levels in Delhi mostly remained below 5%, or between 5-15% for a few days and peaked at 22% only between November 12 and 13 **(Chart 1)**. While the reduced fires prevented extreme spikes, the Air Quality Index (AQI) stayed in the 'very poor' to 'severe' range for almost the entire month of November, indicating the significance of Delhi's local, year-round sources of pollution.

Importantly, PM 2.5 remained the prominent pollutant for 34 days in the October-November period. Data show that the air is toxic to breathe not just because of the increase in the levels of particulate matter but also due to the contribution of local sources. According to the report, the daily particulate pollution spikes are closely reinforced by traffic-related emissions of both NO2 and CO, especially under low-dispersion winter conditions **(Chart 2)**. Both NO2 and CO are highly toxic and harmful gases.

This problem has become widespread over the years. CSE's report noted that in 2018, about 13 hotspots were officially identified based on their pollution levels that not only exceeded the standards but also the city's average levels. These hotspots have continued to remain extremely polluted. With an annual PM2.5 average of 119 $\mu g/m^3$ in 2025, Jahangirpuri is the most polluted hotspot, followed by Bawana, Wazirpur and Anand Vihar.

Over the years, several other hotspots have emerged in the city. Vivek Vihar recorded 101 $\mu g/m^3$ in 2025, similar to Ashok Vihar. Nehru Nagar, Alipur, Sirifort, Dwarka Sector 8, and Patparganj have all recorded more than 90 $\mu g/m^3$ **(Chart 3).**

The report also noted that several NCR cities remained just as polluted as Delhi, and were often worse off. While a region-wide smog episode affected NCR towns too, Bahadurgarh endured persistent conditions, with the episode lasting 10 days. The town's average smog intensity exceeded that of Delhi's. This indicates that the entire region behaves as a single airshed where even smaller towns are becoming hotspots, facing equal or even greater pollution pressure.

Data suggests that Delhi is on the verge of losing its air quality gains from previous years. Between 2018 and 2020, Delhi saw a steady decline in year-on-year PM2.5 levels. However, since 2021-22, the levels have been largely elevated, and the annual average level has taken a sharp upward turn.

Not a burning problem

Charts were sourced from 'Toxic cocktail of pollution during early winter in Delhi-NCR', a report published by the Centre for Science and Environment on December 1, 2025. The report was authored by Sharanjeet Kaur and Anumita Roychowdhury

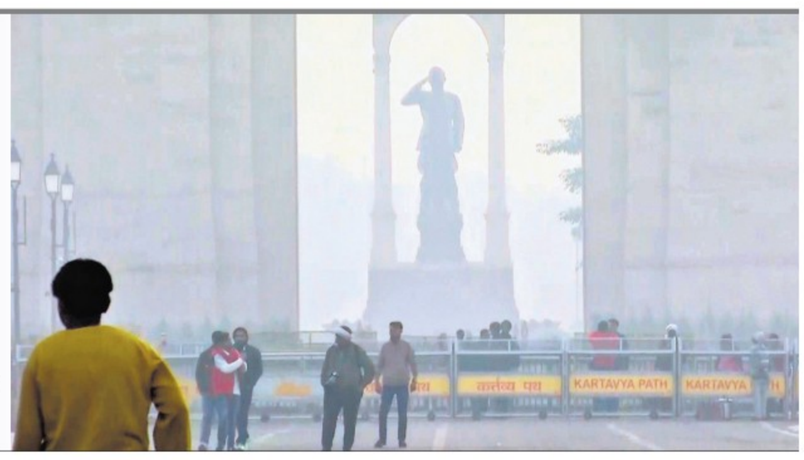


CHART 1: Delhi's Air Quality Index (left axis) versus contribution of farm fires (right axis: %) in the October-November period

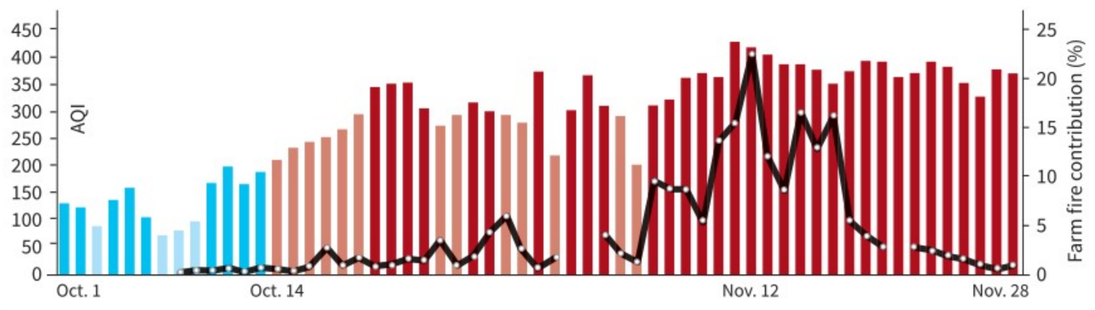


CHART 2: Correlation of $PM_{2.5}$ with CO and NO_2 in the Nov. 21 – Nov. 28 period. In the graphs, the $PM_{2.5}$ values are plotted on the left axis

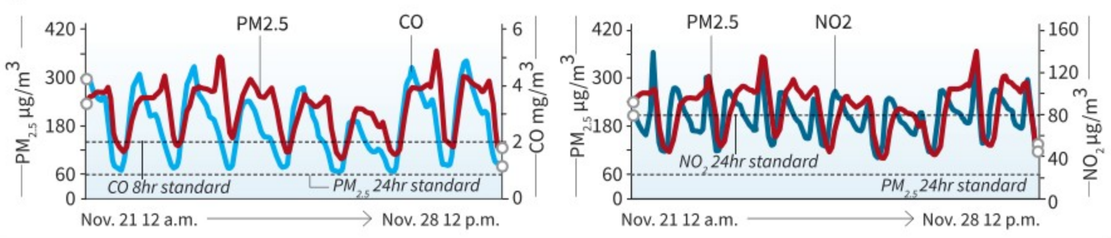
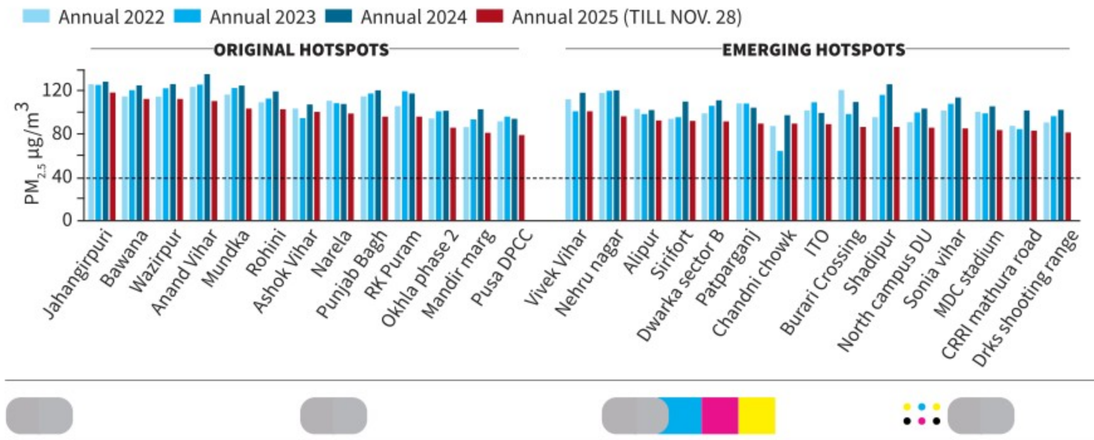


CHART 3: Trend in annual $PM_{2.5}$ level among original and emerging pollution hotspots in Delhi and its surroundings



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 3, 1975

Ford has two-hour talks with Mao

Peking, Dec. 2: Chairman Mao Tse-tung invited President Ford to his home to-day and spent nearly two hours with him – an audience of remarkable length that added immediate glitter to Mr. Ford's visit.

The President, Mrs. Ford, daughter Susan and Mr. Ford's top advisers finally got the coveted invitation U.S. officials had been hoping for and were driven at mid-afternoon to Mao's guarded red brick home in the Forbidden City.

Mrs. Ford and Susan left soon after a picture-taking session but Mr. Ford and his advisers spent about one hour and 50 minutes with the ailing Mao, who lives in seclusion and grants few audiences.

President Nixon spent one hour with Mao during his historic 1972 visit.

White House officials said they would disclose details of the Ford-Mao talks later, but the length of the visit alone seemed to indicate China wanted to keep its ties with Washington strong despite its opposition to U.S. Soviet detente.

Quoting Mrs. Ford, a spokesman said the Chairman's "eyes lit up" when he saw Susan.

Leaders discuss world issues: Tokyo, Dec. 2: President Ford and the Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, began substantive talks in Peking to-day with the Chinese Vice Premier, Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping, and other leaders against the background of a mutual desire by both countries to enlarge their areas of friendship and understanding, notwithstanding the differences which still separate them in many phases of their respective national and international policies.

The main blow of the Chinese axe these days is directed at detente, a proposition which they consider unrealistic and containing the certain seeds of another world holocaust mainly because of their contention that the Soviet Union cannot be trusted and that Europe would be the main victim of what Peking considers as Moscow's sophistry.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 3, 1925

Nobel Peace Prize not to be awarded this year

Oslo, Dec. 3: Storthing's Nobel Committee has decided not to award the Nobel peace prize for 1925; the peace prize for last year is also not awarded.

From Page One

DoT order to 'pre-install' govt. app triggers storm

Root access refers to privileged access in an operating system, which pre-installed apps usually have; such access allows apps to add to what they have access to without prompting users to accept additional permissions.

The DoT did not officially announce the move to mandate the app until after news reports came out describing the move.

Last week, the DoT ordered WhatsApp and other platforms like it to restrict users to devices containing the SIM card they used to register. That order also ordered WhatsApp web and similar secondary access mechanisms to be logged out every six hours. Both directions were issued under the Telecom Cyber Security Rules, 2024, which were amended in November to allow the DoT to target a wide range of firms which use mobile numbers to identify users, going beyond its usual remit of telecom operators.

Kerala's SIR plea fair, EC should look into it: SC

The Kerala government, along with its regional parties, besides the ruling party of Tamil Nadu and leaders from West Bengal, has separately challenged the very constitutionality of the SIR in the top court.

But Kerala's problem is more immediate. The State government said it was heading towards an "administrative impasse" with both the SIR and the local body elections happening simultaneously. The State was staring at a crisis with hardly any personnel left to do the day-to-day government functioning. The State urged the court to intervene with the EC to defer the SIR for the time being.

Appearing for Kerala, advocate C.K. Sasi said polling for the local body elections was on December 9 and December 11. The counting of votes would be on December 13, and the last date for completion of election was scheduled on December 18. The State said the local body elections would require deployment of 1,76,000 personnel from government and quasi-governmental services for election-related duties, and a further 68,000 police and other security personnel. It said the SIR also would need 25,668 persons from a pool of trained staff experienced with election-related work.

Enumeration going 'smoothly': EC

The EC, represented by senior advocates Rakesh Dwivedi and Maninder Singh, said the enumeration phase was going "smoothly", with 98.8% forms distributed to electors, and over 84% filled forms received back and digitised to date. They submitted that the SIR was not impeding the civic elections.

The Kerala State Election Commission, represented by advocate Ramesh Babu, submitted that the staff deployed for SIR work were not being forced to double up as local body election officers. Mr. Babu maintained there was no shortage of staff for the SIR work in the State, and no more people were required.

The Communist Party of India (CPI), a partner in the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) in Kerala, has separately moved the top court, seeking not only the deferment of the SIR but also a judicial direction to quash the revision process.

Apple to resist govt. order on mandatory preloading

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Apple does not plan to comply with a mandate to preload its smartphones with the Sanchar Saathi app and will convey its concerns to New Delhi, sources said.

The government has confidentially ordered companies including Apple, Samsung and Xiaomi to preload their phones with the app within 90 days. The government also wants manufacturers to ensure that the app is not disabled. And for devices already in the supply chain, manufacturers have been told to push the app to phones via software updates.

Apple, however, does not plan to comply with the directive and will tell the government it does not follow such mandates anywhere in the world as they raise a host of privacy and security issues for the company's iOS ecosystem, said two industry sources.

Apple did not respond to requests for comment.

While Apple tightly controls its App Store and proprietary iOS software, Google's Android is open-sourced, allowing manufacturers like Samsung and Xiaomi greater leeway to modify their software.

Sanchar Saathi app can be deleted from devices, says Minister

Jyotiraditya Scindia defends DoT directive; there is no snooping or call monitoring, app is meant to protect people from fraud and theft, he says

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia defended the Department of Telecommunications' (DoT) directions to phone makers to mandatorily pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app on devices sold from March 2026 onwards.

"There is no snooping or call monitoring," Mr. Scindia said on Tuesday in remarks outside Parliament. "If you don't want the app, don't activate it. If you do want it on your phone, keep it. If you want to delete it, delete it."

"The way your phone has many pre-installed apps like Google Maps – you can delete Google Maps if you don't want it, so you can delete this [app] also," Mr. Scindia said.

Digital dilemma: Pre-installed Sanchar Saathi app can be deleted by a user who does not want it, says Jyotiraditya Scinda. AP

User's choice

"Obviously you can delete it. There is no problem. This is a matter of customer protection. It is not mandatory. If you don't want to register, and don't want to use the app, don't use it; don't register, and it will lay dormant," he said.

Google's pre-installed apps on many phone brands cannot be uninstalled; they can, however, be disabled. Apps bundled in with a phone may also enjoy elevated permissions access by default, even if the variant distributed on application marketplaces like Google Play and Apple's App Store seek individual permissions on an ad-hoc basis.

Mr. Scindia added that to protect people from fraud or theft, it was the government's "responsibility" to have the app distributed to all users. "If you don't register, it will stay inactive." "In one year, in 2024 alone, our country had ₹22,800 crore of frauds," Mr. Scindia said. "On one hand, the Opposition complains about increasing fraud. On the other, when we give the Sanchar Saathi to the common citizens, they cry Pegasus," Mr. Scindia said, referring to the Israeli-developed spyware acquired by the Intelligence Bureau (IB), and allegedly used on Opposition leaders, activists and journalists in India.

"Those who don't want to see the truth cannot be shown the truth," the Minister added.

BJP defends app; rejects Opposition's charge of snooping

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

Sambit Patra

The BJP on Tuesday dismissed the allegation made by the Congress and others that the Sanchar Saathi app will be used to facilitate surveillance of people. It said the app has been designed solely to secure mobile phones and their users, not to access personal data.

At a press conference, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said the app had so far helped detect and disconnect about 1.75 crore fraudulent mobile connections, trace close to 26 lakh stolen/missing phones, and recover 7.5 lakh phones.

He said Sanchar Saathi cannot read messages, listen to calls, or extract personal data from a user's device. Responding to the concerns about forced adoption, he reiterated the government's clarification that installing Sanchar Saathi is optional. "It can be deleted like any other app," the BJP leader said, adding that only those worried that their malpractices may be detected would never use it.

The BJP leader said the app helps users report suspicious calls, spam and malicious links, track and recover stolen or lost mobile phones, detect International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) duplications for use in any criminal activity, identify mobile numbers obtained using forged or stolen identities, and flag international calls spoofed as local numbers.

"Those who spread misinformation will never understand what Sanchar Sathi is. Such critics may continue to misrepresent the initiative, but the public must know the facts," he said. Replying to a post by Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge on X against Sanchar Saathi, Mr. Patra termed the Opposition as "Dushprachar (misinformation) Saathi". "In the Modi government, stakeholders are taken into confidence. The Congress discusses everything else, but for the issues which pertain to protecting democracy...," Mr. Patra added.

On the draw

People should disclose details as per Census Act: Home Ministry

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

On being asked if disclosing caste during the upcoming Census would be optional, the Union government said in Lok Sabha on Tuesday that as per the Census Act, 1948, "the respondent is required to answer questions to the best of his knowledge or belief."

The statement came as a written reply by Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai in response to a question by Trinamool Congress member Shatrughan Prasad Sinha, who asked whether disclosing caste for the Census would be optional.

The Minister's reply mentioned Section 8(2) of the Census Act, 1948, which says, "Every person of whom any question is asked under sub-section (1) shall be legally bound to answer such question to the best of his knowledge or belief."

The next Census will be the first digital census and the first to enumerate caste in Independent India.

The reply added that the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner is in the process of finalising a questionnaire and it will be notified in the official gazette.

Board exam overlap

When asked if the timeline for the Census would clash with school board examinations as many enumerators are also schoolteachers, the reply said: "Primary school teachers are usually appointed as enumerators. The timeline for Census 2027 has been kept same like the past practices followed in previous censuses."

ED searches premises in suspected hawala case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate is conducting searches under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) linked to Naresh Kumar Kejriwal, a chartered accountant and "suspected hawala operator", along with his associates across Ranchi, Mumbai, and Surat.

"The action is based on the Income Tax Department findings revealing that Mr. Kejriwal controls undisclosed foreign shell entities in the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, and the United States managed effectively from India, which have accumulated over ₹900 crore in unexplained reserves and routed around ₹1,500 crore back to India through bogus telegraphic transfers," said an agency source.

"As these foreign assets were not disclosed in statutory filings and appear to be vehicles for large-scale illicit fund layering, the search is critical...," the source said.

Do we offer a red carpet welcome to Rohingya: SC on plea for due process

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The CJI-led Bench was hearing a petition alleging disappearance of Rohingya people who were in Delhi Police custody. FILE PHOTO

The Supreme Court on Tuesday questioned whether individuals who enter India "illegally" can insist that procedural safeguards be applied before their deportation, as it heard a habeas corpus petition alleging the disappearance of several Rohingya persons who were earlier in the custody of the Delhi Police.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi was hearing the petition filed by rights activist Rita Manchanda, who alleged that the Rohingya had been picked up by police in May and that their present whereabouts remain unknown.

She contended that they could not have been deported without following the procedure prescribed under the law.

"First, you cross the fenced border illegally, and you enter India. Then you declare that 'now that I have entered, your laws must apply to me, that I should be issued a show-cause notice, I am entitled to be provided food, I am entitled to be provided shelter, my children are entitled to this and that'. Do we want to stretch the law like this?" the Chief Justice orally remarked, while addressing the submission that any deportation must conform to due process.

The petitioner's counsel clarified that she was not opposing deportation *per se*, but insisted that any such exercise must be undertaken strictly in accordance with the law.

Security considerations

The Chief Justice, however, pointed to the security considerations inherent to India's borders. "If you don't have the legal status to stay as a refugee in India, and you are an intruder, you know very well that we have a very, very sensitive border on the north India side... If an intruder comes, do we give them a red carpet welcome, saying we would like to provide them with all facilities?"

Can 'doubt' of impurity in voter rolls lead to statelessness, ask petitioners

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The petitioner side challenging the constitutionality of the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise claimed in the Supreme Court on Tuesday that the Election Commission of India (EC) has morphed into a "despot" that has transformed a "suspicion" about the purity of the electoral roll into a massive country-wide survey, which may not only lead to disenfranchisement but also statelessness for many.

"Can suspicion lead to not only disenfranchisement but statelessness? A doubt, a suspicion leading to statelessness. What is the basis of this power?" advocate Vrinda Grover, appearing for the petitioners, asked during her submissions before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant.

En masse scrutiny

She argued that the SIR frustrated the vision of the Constitution by allowing en masse scrutiny of citizenship by the EC based on executive order rather than parliamentary legislation.

> SIR is a *de novo* preparation of the voter list. This has not been done before. Why create a situation in which 30 BLOs have taken their own lives?
>
> **PRASHANT BHUSHAN**
> Advocate

The EC, on the other hand, has asserted its authority to "assess citizenship" for the purpose of registration in electoral rolls. The poll body has maintained that its plenary power to scrutinise citizenship flows directly from Article 324, which empowers it to supervise and control the conduct of elections. It has also contended that the authority of Parliament to make laws on elections under Article 327 must align with the EC's plenary powers.

Advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi argued that this was the first time since the first election in 1950 that the EC was preparing the election rolls from a "clean slate". Earlier elections were held by adding or deleting names from existing rolls. There was never an occasion when the voter list was wiped clean.

"The SIR is a *de novo* preparation of the voter list. This has not been done before. Why this hurry? Why create a situation in which 30 BLOs have taken their own lives?" Mr. Bhushan asked.

Mr. Bhushan said short windows have been given for filling the enumeration forms and that the lists are not available in a machine readable format.

"If you give plenary powers to the EC, it will become a despot. A lot of people in this country see the EC as a despot," he said.

This comment led the Chief Justice to caution Mr. Bhushan to limit his submissions to his pleadings.

Earlier in the hearing, senior advocate A.M. Singhvi said the reasons given by the EC, such as rapid urbanisation and frequent migration, for holding the SIR were generic.

"India is no more rural than urban. India is rurban," Mr. Singhvi said. He submitted that both urbanisation and migration were generic and insufficient grounds for holding a massive exercise like the SIR of electoral rolls.

He said the EC, through the SIR process, had placed citizens in a presumptive citizenship list. "The presumption is that every citizen has to prove he really is an Indian citizen. The EC has arrogated the power to scrutinise citizenship to itself. The law is really that unless I have acquired a foreign citizenship, I should be presumed to be an Indian citizen. Here, a citizen is put on the guest list without sending him prior notice," Mr. Singhvi submitted.

Lok Sabha to take up discussion on electoral reforms next week

Deadlock was broken after an all-party meeting was convened by Lok Sabha Speaker; Lower House will hold a debate on 150th Anniversary of Vande Mataram on Dec. 8; INDIA bloc leaders to meet today to discuss strategy for the Winter Session

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha will debate the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls as part of a discussion on electoral reforms next Tuesday. It will be preceded by a debate on the 150th anniversary of *Vande Mataram*, the National Song.

The logjam between the Opposition and the government was broken after Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla convened an all-party meeting, following a washout of the proceedings of the House on Tuesday.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, in an X post, said: "During the all-party meeting chaired by Speaker Lok Sabha today, it has been decided to hold discussion in Lok Sabha on 150th Anniversary of National Song *Vande Mataram* from noon on Monday [December 8] and discussion on election reforms from noon on Tuesday [December 9]". Prime Minister Narendra Modi will initiate the debate on 150 years of *Vande Mataram*, said government floor managers.

Strong demand: INDIA bloc leaders protesting against SIR on Parliament premises on the second day of the Winter Session, in New Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

"The BAC [Business Advisory Committee] meeting discussed the debates to be held on *Vande Mataram* and electoral reforms, (with) Opposition's SIR discussion debate clubbed under electoral reforms," Congress chief whip K. Suresh told presspersons after the BAC meeting. The BAC had allocated 10 hours each for both debates, Mr. Suresh said. The time could be extended if the House deemed fit, he added.

The Speaker's meetings came in the wake of repeated disruptions in the Lok Sabha over the SIR issue. Though Mr. Rijiju met floor leaders of parties and indicated the government's willingness to discuss electoral reforms, he refused to give a timeline for the discussion.

Mr. Rijiju is learnt to have ruled out a discussion on the SIR, contending that it was an administrative matter of the Election Commission and the government had no role in it. The Minister was ready for a discussion on a broader subject of electoral reforms as it fell within the government's purview. Sources told *The Hindu* that the Opposition and government floor managers were discussing about the subject line of the debate on electoral reforms, with the Congress chief whip in the Rajya Sabha, Jairam Ramesh, giving three suggestions: need for further electoral reforms, urgent need for further electoral reforms, or continuing electoral reforms.

The Opposition leaders claimed victory as their demand for a discussion on the SIR would be part of the electoral reforms debate. "INDIA [India National Developmental Inclusive Alliance] wins," Congress MP Manickam Tagore posted on X, adding, " Democracy is not a playground for diversion – it demands accountability".

The INDIA bloc floor leaders will meet on Wednesday to decide their strategy for the remaining three days of the first week of the Winter Session.

Rajya Sabha proceedings disrupted as Opposition parties continue protest

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As the Opposition continued to disrupt the Rajya Sabha for a second straight day on Tuesday with demands for an immediate discussion on the special intensive revision of electoral rolls, the Union government insisted that a discussion on 150 years of *Vande Mataram* would come first.

The Centre said that it was not averse to a discussion on the SIR, but said the Opposition could not insist on a date.

After a morning adjournment, the Opposition members staged a walkout in the afternoon, raising slogans, saying "*SIR par charcha ho* (there should be a debate on SIR)."

Within an hour of convening on Tuesday morning, proceedings in the Upper House were adjourned till 2 p.m. following protests by the Opposition parties. The protests escalated after Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan rejected 20 notices under Rule 267 on five different subjects, stating they did not meet the procedural requirements. As the Zero Hour proceeded amid the commotion, the Chair adjourned the proceedings till 2 p.m.

Rajya Sabha Chairman C. P. Radhakrishnan leaving after adjourning the House proceedings during the Winter Session on Tuesday. ANI

As soon as the Rajya Sabha met at 2 p.m., Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien again raised the matter of an SIR debate.

In his response, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said the Business Advisory Committee had decided to discuss the 150 years of *Vande Mataram* and this should precede the debate on "electoral reforms". Mr. O'Brien said more than 14 Opposition parties wanted an urgent discussion as people were dying because of the SIR exercise.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, said notices under Rule 267 were given as the matter deserved the immediate attention of Parliament.

CPI(M) member John Brittas said the SIR debate should be taken up on Wednesday, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's Tiruchi Siva too said the situation demanded urgent attention of the House.

Only 20% of candidates accepted PM Internship Scheme offers: data

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

While the PM Internship Scheme's pilot project has exceeded its target of providing 1.25 lakh internship opportunities in a year, it has found few takers among India's youth, data presented to Parliament show.

Over two phases, 1.65 lakh internship offers were made by companies to applicants, Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Harsh Malhotra informed the Lok Sabha in a reply to a question. Of these offers, only 20% were accepted. Candidates cited locations, roles, and duration as reasons for declining offers. Of those who accepted offers, one-fifth of participants left their internships before completing them.

Few takers: The Centre says 1.65 lakh internship offers were made by companies to applicants. V. RAJU

The Prime Minister Internship Scheme (PMIS) was announced in the Union Budget 2024 with the aim of providing internship opportunities to one crore youth in India's top 500 companies in five years. In October 2024, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs launched a pilot project for the scheme, targeting 1.25 lakh internship opportunities in a year.

Low acceptance rates

Under the first round of the pilot project, companies posted more than 1.27 lakh internship opportunities on the scheme portal, for which 6.21 lakh applications were received. The companies made 82,000 internship offers, of which 8,700 or 10.6% of the offers were accepted.

The Minister's reply noted that, as of November 26, 4,565 candidates from the first round had left their internships without completing them. That is, more than half the candidates that started their internships in the first round left before finishing their term.

In the second round of the pilot scheme from January onwards, companies posted over 1.18 lakh internship opportunities for which they received over 4.55 lakh applications. As of November 26, companies have made over 83,000 offers, of which 24,600 offers or 30% were accepted.

So far, 2,053 candidates – or 8.3% of the ones who accepted internships in the second round – have left without completing their internships, the government said.

Taken together, this means that over the two rounds, 1.65 lakh internship offers were made, of which 33,300 (20.2%) offers were accepted. Of those that were accepted, 6,618 (19.9%) candidates quit their internships prematurely.

The government had initially budgeted ₹840 crore for the pilot project, which was revised down to ₹380 crore in the financial year 2024-25. Of this, the pilot project has so far utilised ₹73.72 crore, the reply said.

Centre says U.P. reported maximum complaints over Jal Jeevan Mission projects

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Nearly 17,036 complaints have been received by States and Union Territories on "irregularities" and "poor work quality" in projects initiated under the Jal Jeevan Mission, with about 84% of the complaints coming from Uttar Pradesh.

Action had been taken against 621 Departmental Officials, 969 contractors, and 153 Third Party Inspection Agencies, the Minister of State for Jal Shakti, V. Somanna, said in response to a query in the Rajya Sabha.

The total number of complaints was based on reports tabulated by 32 States and Union Territories, and included a range of sources, including "... media reports, *suo-moto* cognisance, references from public representatives, citizens, and grievance portals", he said.

Water woes: States and Union Territories reported 17,036 complaints over 'shoddy' Jal Jeevan Mission work. FILE PHOTO

Uttar Pradesh reported the highest number of complaints and constituted about 84% of the total complaints received over financial irregularities and poor quality of work under the mission.

Inquiries initiated

"The State reported that it had initiated enquiries in all 14,264 complaints received from various channels, including *suo moto* cognisance, and reports have been submitted in 14,212 cases, while enquiries are under process in 52 cases. The State has further reported that action was taken in 434 cases which involved 171 department level officials, 120 contractors and 143 TPIAs, while the remaining complaints have either been addressed or found irrelevant," the Minister noted.

After Uttar Pradesh, the States with the most number of complaints are Assam (1,236) and Tripura (376).

One doctor available per 811 persons in India, RS told

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The doctor-population ratio in the country is 1:811, the Centre informed Parliament on Tuesday.

Assuming 80% of registered practitioners in both modern medicine and AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) systems are available, the doctor-population ratio in the country is estimated to be 1:811, the Health Ministry said in a written reply submitted in the Rajya Sabha.

There are 13,88,185 registered modern medicine doctors in the country, and 7,51,768 registered practitioners in the AYUSH system of medicine, Union Minister J. P. Nadda said.

Many measures had been taken to improve the availability of doctors in under-served areas, he said, adding that a "hard-area allowance" was given to specialist doctors for serving in remote areas.

Opposition shedding crocodile tears over Manipur, says Nirmala

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday that the Opposition was shedding crocodile tears over the situation in Manipur.

She said that the steps taken by the Centre had improved the economic and social situation in the State. The Minister was replying to a debate on the Manipur Goods and Services Tax Bill, which was later returned to the Lok Sabha.

MSME TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Process and Product Development Centre
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre - Coimbatore Organizes
Online AI in Business Training
Financial Management
Course Content: Working Capital Management & Capital Budgeting, Purchase and Contracts Management, Employee remuneration an welfare management, Statutory and regulatory Requirements in industry, Inventory & Treasure Management, Costing & Budgeting & Cost control Techniques, Accounts Compilation and finalisation & Auditing, Taxation - Direct and Indirect Taxation, Personal Financial Planning, Insurance - LOP & Material Damager - Provision & Claim settlement, Pension policy.
Start Date: 08th - 12th Dec 2025 | Time: 6.00 pm - 9.00 pm | Fees: Rs. 5,900/-
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TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI
HEALTH OFFICE, TTD, TIRUMALA. e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Health Office, TTD, Tirumala is inviting online bids (3rd Call) from the suppliers for Supply of Manpower - 06 Nos., Sanitary Inspector posts in the Health Office, TTD, Tirumala '.Date of upload of Tender document 04/12/2025 and last date of submission of Tender document:11/12/2025. For tender document log on to the web site http://www.tirumala.org and http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in. For further details contact Phone Nos:0877-2263686 & 9866132451 and mail ID:ttdhealthoffice@gmail.com during office working hours.
TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.310) Date:02-12-2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

अजमेर विकास प्राधिकरण, अजमेर
रोडवेज सेंटर, सिविल लाईन्स, अजमेर, Email :- ajmerada@gmail.com, Tel.No. :- 0145-2627748-2627749
क्रमांक :- अविप्रा/प.2/तकनीकी/2025-26/राजकाज 19076737 दिनांक :- 28/11/2025
E-TENDER - 45/2025-26
Bids for various work amounting Rs. 1689-67 Lacs are invited from interested bidders for up to 23.12.2025 , 6:00 pm. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.raj.nic.in, http://www.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/ada departmental website.
UBN : AJD2526WLOB00201, AJD2526WSOB00202-204, AJD2526SLOB00205, AJD2526WSOB00206, AJD2526SLOB00207
Raj.Samwad/C/25/14968 Executive Engineer

Government of Telangana
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
O/o. Chief General Manager (Engg), Revenue Circle, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500004, Telangana.
Tender Notification
Tender No. & Date
e'Tender No.s : EP. 247 to 269/CGM(E)/Rev. Circle/Billing and Collection/2025-26, Dated : 03.12.2025
Name of the Work : Manning & Operation of Revenue Billing & Collection (Services & materials) for the period of One Year (i.e., from 01-01-2026 to 31-12-2026) under various O&M Divisions of HMWSSB Jurisdiction.
1. The detailed notification is published in https://www.hyderabadwater.gov.in/
2. Bid details & document will be available through online from the website https://tender.telangana.gov.in from Date : 03.12.2025 @ 5:00 PM and last date of submission of document of e-Tender Proposal is Date : 10.12.2025 @ 01:00 PM
3. Name & address of the e-tender inviting authority : Chief General Manager (E), HMWSSB, Revenue Circle, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 04.
Sd/- Chief General Manager (Engg), Revenue Circle, Khairatabad, Hyd - 04., Telangana.

BENGALURU WEST CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagara Division, Near Ramakrishna Hegde Park, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 072.
No:BWCC/EE/RRND/Tend/01/2025-26 Date:01-12-2025
INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)
Short Term Tender Notification
(Two Cover System) GoK KPP Portal only
website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
The Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagara Division, BWCC, Bengaluru, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of Work:
1.	Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains of Arterial, Sub Arterial, Priority Roads and connecting Roads in Resurfacing and strengthening of Roads in Laggere and Rajarajeshwarinagara Constituency Rajarajeshwarinagara Division, GO SL No.1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23&24 (CMIDP) 2025-26 PACKAGE-01. Est. Cost (in Crores): 40.00. EMD (in ₹): Rs.40,00,000/- (1.00 lakh through e-payment (NEFT) balance Rs.39.00 Lakhs through BG/FDR, should be submit before opening of Technical bid).

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from KPP Portal from 20-12-2025. (2) Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on 24-12-2025 at 11:30 a.m. in the office of the Chief Engineer, BWCC, 18th Cross, Ideal Homes, RR Nagar, Bengaluru-560 098. (3) Tender must be submitted online through KPP Portal on 31.12.2025 before 4:00 p.m. (4) Technical Bids will be opened on 01.01.2026 at 4:30 p.m. (if Possible). (5) Financial Bids will be opened on 02.01.2026 at 4:30 p.m. (if Possible).
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwarinagara Division, BWCC-Zone-1.

Name and Address of the entity seeking Proposal:
BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED
BIAL Project Office, Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
Bangalore 560 300, Web: www.bengaluruairport.com
Kempegowda INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BENGALURU
NOTICE TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

S. No.	Tender Title	Short description of scope of work
1	Construction of T1 Forecourt upgrade (Quad 1 redevelopment) and Associated Infrastructure facilities	The successful Tenderer will bear full and comprehensive responsibility for the end-to-end execution of the Project. This includes, but is not limited to, Civil, Structural, Architectural, MEPF, ICT, Interior Finishes, existing Utility re-routing, Signage, Wayfinding, Landscaping & irrigation, water bodies, pathway paving, landscape lighting, across all Landside Works, related to and obtaining all requisite statutory approvals and clearances from relevant authorities. The scope of Works shall also include integration of services & Tie Ends to the Existing utilities of the Terminal T1 Forecourt & Substation for power. The Project shall be executed in phase wise. Successful Tenderer will be responsible for ensuring seamless coordination with Design Consultants, the Project Management Consultant (PMC), BIAL, statutory bodies / relevant government and regulatory authorities, and all other stakeholders for timely and successful completion of the Works. Building Configuration: • Ground Floor, First Floor & Second Floor Plot Area. Total Site area is Approx 5017 sqm.

Pre Qualification Criteria & other Information: Available on BIAL website www.bengaluruairport.com under Tenders section.
Submission Due Date & Time for all the above: 22/12/2025 at IST 1700 Hours.
Applicants who are interested shall express their interest through E-Mail: projecttenders@bialairport.com.
To submit EOI, register and login to BIAL E-Tendering website (https://www.bialtenders.com), Event ID: 3577.
Note: Any Further Addendums to this EOI shall be made available in BIAL website.
Name and address of the entity seeking EOIs:
Sr. Vice President - Procurement & Contracts
Bangalore International Airport Ltd.,
BIAL Project Office,
Kempegowda International Airport,
Devanahalli, Bengaluru - 560 300 Email: projecttenders@bialairport.com,
Phone No: 080 - 6678 2431, www.bengaluruairport.com

INBRIEF

DRDO conducts high-speed test of fighter escape system

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully carried out a high-speed rocket-sled test of an indigenous fighter aircraft escape system at controlled velocity on Tuesday. According to the Defence Ministry, the test was conducted at the Rail Track Rocket Sled facility of the Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory in Chandigarh. The test validated canopy severance, ejection sequencing and complete aircrew recovery. The trial, conducted with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Aeronautical Development Agency, marks a big leap in India's escape-system testing.

New complex housing PMO to be called 'Seva Teerth'

The new complex housing the Prime Minister's Office, which is in the final stages of completion, will be called *Seva Teerth*. The complex was earlier known as the 'Executive Enclave' under the Central Vista Redevelopment project. Besides the PMO, it will also house the offices of the Cabinet Secretariat, National Security Council Secretariat, and India House, which will be a venue for talks with visiting dignitaries. "*Seva Teerth* will be a workplace designed to reflect the spirit of service, and where national priorities take shape. India's public institutions are undergoing a quiet but profound shift," an official said. "The idea of governance is moving from *satta* (power) to *seva* (service)," the official said.

Russia wants to increase trade with India: Peskov

Kremlin spokesperson says some countries trying to put obstacles on the way of development of India-Russia trade; proposal on small modular reactors to be discussed during Putin's visit, he says

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

> There are some countries that would try and put obstacles on the way of development of our trade. So let's stick to our own interests and we have to make sure that India is sharing this approach
>
> **DMITRY PESKOV**
> Press Secretary of Russian President Vladimir Putin

Some countries are trying to create "obstacles" in India-Russia trade, but the two sides are focused on overcoming the challenge and expanding bilateral trade to $100 billion in the next five years, Dmitry Peskov, Press Secretary of Russian President Vladimir Putin, said on Tuesday.

Mr. Putin is scheduled to visit India on December 4. Speaking at a press interaction organised by Russian news outlet *Sputnik*, Mr. Peskov said Mr. Putin would be accompanied by officials who will bring new proposals in the civil nuclear and military domains. He said the Western sanctions, which have created a hurdle for India-Russia trade relations, were "illegal".

"There are some countries that would try and put obstacles on the way of development of our trade. So let's stick to our own interests and we have to make sure that India is sharing this approach," Mr. Peskov said, highlighting the need for using national currencies in bilateral trade. He said the share of the U.S. dollar in global trade was "decreasing".

Mr. Peskov described the U.S. tariffs imposed on India for the purchase of Russian energy as a "bilateral" issue between India and the U.S. but added, "What concerns us is the way we are going to continue and enlarge the volume of our bilateral business with India not letting anyone interfere in that."

Payment system

"Russia continues to be a very important supplier of energy sources to India on competitive prices and we know that this trade is of great benefit to India and at the same time of mutual benefit," Mr. Peskov said, explaining that "various methods of payments between the two countries will be on the agenda" of the talks during the visit.

"We have to organise our trade volume and our trade interaction in the way that cannot be affected by third countries. So, the nearly whole volume of our trade relations is being paid by our national currencies. This is very important as that way we are securing our trade and our sovereignty."

Responding to a question from *The Hindu* regarding reports of energy major Reliance halting import of Russian crude, Mr. Peskov blamed third countries for "additional pressure".

"Some companies are slowing down the purchase while some companies are enlarging the purchase," he said.

Mr. Peskov said Russia was trying to circumvent the Western sanctions that had created hurdle in trade, adding, "We consider those sanctions to be illegal from the point of view of international law."

"The only sanction can be considered legal when it is approved by the UN Security Council. Unless it is not, it is illegal. So, all these limitations, we do not accept them," said Mr. Peskov.

He highlighted the Kudankulam nuclear reactor as an example of successful civil nuclear cooperation between Russia and India and said the upcoming Presidential visit would include a Russian proposal on small modular reactors. Mr. Peskov said Mr. Putin would be accompanied by Rosatom chief Alexey Likhachev.

"Mr. Likhachev, chief executive of Rosatom will be joining the President during his visit and he will be carrying an offer for the small reactors in his bag. This offer will be on the table for negotiation," said Mr. Peskov.

'Article on Putin by envoys of Germany, U.K., France unusual'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The article accused Russia of starting the Ukraine war and said its attacks are ruthless, aggressive

A diplomatic incident erupted ahead of the arrival of Russian President Vladimir Putin after envoys of the U.K., France, and Germany jointly authored an article for a newspaper on Monday that blamed Russia for the war in Ukraine and accused Mr. Putin of "total disregard for human life".

Officials of the External Affairs Ministry described the article by the three envoys as "unacceptable and unusual".

Talking about the article authored by British High Commissioner to India Lindy Cameron, French Ambassador Thierry Mathou, and German Ambassador Philipp Ackermann, a senior official said, "This is very unusual. It is not an acceptable diplomatic practice to give public advice on third country relations. We have taken note of it."

The article, titled "World wants the Ukraine war to end, but Russia doesn't seem serious about peace", accused Russia of launching the war on Ukraine and said the attacks by Russia are "a systematic choice by Russia to wage its war of aggression with absolute ruthlessness". The three envoys accused Russia of conducting "malign global activity" through "cyberattacks and disinformation" that show "Russian leadership's appetite for territorial expansion and global destabilisation goes well beyond Ukraine". The article further targeted Mr. Putin and said he "stalls and delays" "serious peace talks".

Former Foreign Secretary Kanwal Sibal responded to the article and described it as "public grandstanding with an overt propagandist intent".

He said the article was "vicious" that "breaches diplomatic norms". "It is interference in our internal affairs as the purpose is to fuel anti-Russian sentiments in pro-European circles in India and question the morality of our ties with Russia," said Mr. Sibal, calling on the External Affairs Ministry to "express its displeasure publicly at this violation of diplomatic norms by the three envoys."

WHO backs use of GLP-1 drugs for weight loss

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

In a much-anticipated development, the World Health Organization has finally issued global guidelines on the use of popular weight loss drugs. These glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) therapies are being used for the treatment of obesity in adults.

The WHO guidelines released on December 1 posit equitable access as the key element of using such therapies, and read them as one element of a full complement of actions against obesity.

"While medication alone won't solve this global health crisis, GLP-1 therapies can help millions overcome obesity and reduce its associated harms," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhonom Ghebreysus said, while launching these guidelines.

With the guidelines, the WHO recognises that the GLP-1 class of drugs are indeed effective, and that they are likely to have an impact on the global costs of obesity. Beyond its health impacts, the global economic cost of obesity is predicted to reach $3 trillion annually by 2030. The guidelines can help efforts to reduce the skyrocketing health costs associated with managing the condition and associated health complications, the WHO said.

There are two primary components to the WHO's recommendations: that GLP-1 therapies may be used by adults, excluding pregnant women, conditionally, for the long-term treatment of obesity; and that intensive behavioural interventions in diet and physical activity must be continued alongside the drugs.

The WHO also specified that while the efficacy of these therapies in treating obesity and improving metabolic and other outcomes was evident, it was

WHO guidelines posit equitable access as the key element of using such therapies. FILE PHOTO

making a conditional recommendation partly because of the limited data available on long-term efficacy, safety and probable outcomes when the drugs are discontinued, but also because of their costs which put them out of the reach of many people.

Obesity is a complex chronic disease and a major driver of noncommunicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer. It also contributes to poorer outcomes for patients who have infectious diseases. It is only in recent years that the treatment for obesity has been revolutionised by the emergence of a class of drugs that not only effect significant weight loss, but also confer a whole range of metabolic benefits to individuals.

Equitable access

A special communication in the recent issue of *JAMA* notes that "medication alone cannot solve the global obesity burden. The availability of GLP1 therapies should galvanise the global community to build a fair, integrated, and sustainable obesity ecosystem. Countries must ensure equitable access not only to comprehensive disease management, but also to health promotion and prevention policies and interventions targeting the general population and those at high risk."

Anoop Mishra, director of the National Diabetes, Obesity, and Cholesterol Foundation, said: "I believe this statement by the WHO is a progressive step towards obesity management worldwide. For India, the costs of these drugs is a roadblock that needs more efforts, insurance coverage and development of generics. The real impact will be there only if a large segment of the population is able to afford these drugs."

V. Mohan, chairman of the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation, added: "It is good that the WHO's guidelines specify that the drugs alone will not suffice. People will think, 'all I need to do is take this weekly injection, and then I'm done. I don't need to follow a diet, or exercise.' Here, the WHO clearly says no. Your diet and exercise are paramount, and only when those fail, and when you really need the help of a drug or if morbidly obese, then you go for these drugs."

Divisions are being created in name of language: Minister

S.Ganesan
VARANASI

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at launch of Kashi Tamil Sangamam in Varanasi. PTI

Criticising attempts to create divisions along linguistic lines due to narrow political interests, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday called upon Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to visit Varanasi to witness and experience the cultural and historic links between Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.

"I have been inviting Mr. Stalin to attend the Kashi Tamil Sangamam every year; I invite him again to see how the civilisational ties between Tamil Nadu and Kashi are being celebrated," Mr. Pradhan said. He was speaking at the inauguration of the fourth edition of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam here.

Centuries ago, people from Varanasi visited Tamil Nadu, and Tamil people visited Varanasi. There was no language barrier, he said. "Only vested interests create barriers. You can create artificial barriers and succeed in politics but cannot create a division among people in the name of language," he said. The Kashi Tamil Sangamam, as envisaged by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, had created a "bridge of knowledge", he said.

"We believe that multilingualism is our strength and not a liability. Kashi Tamil Sangamam is a right experiment of experiential learning," he said.

Several Tamil cultural practices were still alive and practised in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adiyanath said.

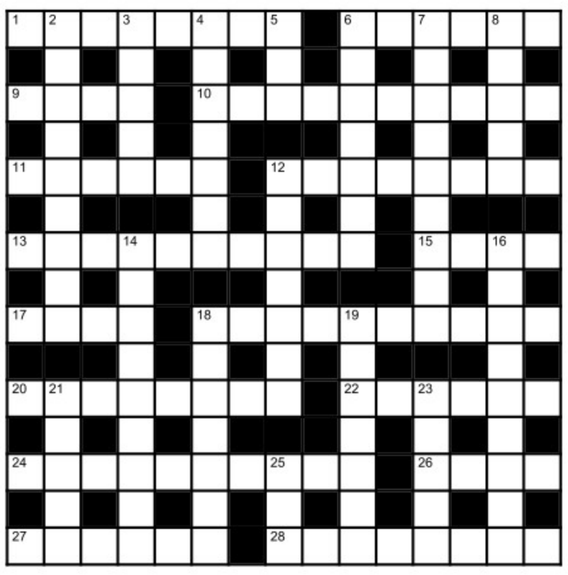
The event was inaugurated by Mr. Adiyanath and Mr. Pradhan. Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi, Puducherry Lieutenant-Governor K. Kailashnathan and Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L. Murugan were present.

TH CROSSWORD + 14655

(set by Gussalufz)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://crossword.thehindu.com*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Mixing with the man's family? Good (8)
6 Russian scientist's secretary filed Swedish manufacturing company's review (6)
9 Field's crowded in Filmfare Awards (4)
10 Windies star's one chasing National Award winning actress, in an impressionable state (6,4)
11 Bad guy in sleeveless jacket (6)
12 Most potent in sack, having extraordinary size (8)
13 Some day care, till Ishant gets over inability to read? (10)
15 *Goddess & Murphy*'s third in two rankings, finally (4)
17 Textile worker rejected Jeffrey Dahmer's sandwiches (4)
18 "Missing India," Nick posted on Insta, disheartened (2,8)
20 Cranky grannies — they're rebels (8)
22 Rough policeman arrests husband (case of piracy) (6)
24 Air travel firm bumping those in front for photography equipment (5,5)
26 Old walkway from Paris to Argenteuil (4)
27 I wish setter, affectionately: "Drop dead" (2,4)
28 One erg roughly rounds to half new radiation unit (8)

Down

2 A tip from headquarters: record amateur antics (9)
3 Dog and son have a conversation (5)
4 Popular X user, nakedly violent (7)
5 Get back and talk (3)
6 Soft offering from Kapil — low yorker (7)
7 Ian Irving worked from a U.S. state (9)
8 Well, nothing unchanged! (5)
12 Beginner in Bollywood has around a month to deliver songs (7)
14 Claim rank, handpick mostly bygone cricketer (5,4)
16 Old Ugandan procedure to polish percussion instrument (9)
18 Stupidly and heartlessly, European country imprisons revolutionary writer (7)
19 Regularly test, get rockets set up for release (7)
21 Suffering, in short, after leader's sex change? (5)
23 Start editing notes (5)
25 Save cake (3)

SUDOKU

		8			4	2		
	4		5	9				
	3		8			9		4
						6	5	
4	6			2			7	3
	1	7						
9		6			5		4	
				6	9		3	
		3	2			7		

No.SS6719 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

N	O	H	O	P	E	R		A	S	P	H	A	L	T
	M		A		A		P		H		I		O	
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	N		I		T		O		D		H		I	
M	O	U	S	S	E		T	O	D	O	L	I	S	T
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E	S	T	R	A	N	G	E	D		E	G	E	S	T
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I	N	T	E	R	E	S	T		U	N	S	T	O	P
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	E		U		E		C		E		L		S	
D	R	A	P	E	R	Y		T	R	O	L	L	E	Y

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	4	3	9	2	8	6	7	5
2	6	8	1	7	5	9	4	3
7	9	5	6	3	4	2	8	1
8	5	9	3	4	1	7	6	2
6	3	1	7	9	2	8	5	4
4	2	7	5	8	6	1	3	9
3	8	4	2	1	7	5	9	6
9	1	6	8	5	3	4	2	7
5	7	2	4	6	9	3	1	8

FAITH

Sholingur Yoga Nrisimha

Every temple has an origin story and each deity is revered for various reasons, but all of them dovetail towards what a devotee seeks. Often, seers and preceptors have been the reason for a temple to come up in a particular area and emerging as the focal point for devotional tourists from across the world. One such temple is that of Yoga Nrisimha, in Sholingur near Ranipet, said P. Swaminathan.

Falling under the 108 Divya Kshetras of Vaishnavites, the temple's east-facing deity, Yoga Nrisimha, here is normally in a state of yoga (meditation). Built by Parankucha Chola in the 3rd Century, the deity sits on a 600-foot high mountain and one has to climb 1,305 steps to reach the Yoga Nrisimha and Amritavalli Thayar sannidhis. However, Bhaktavatchala Perumal, the utsava murthy (processional deity), presides down in the plateau. Lying between Kancheepuram and Tirupati, the Sholingur temple is a sacred refuge for many, especially during the Tamil month of Karthigai.

It is said that Nrisimha comes out of his yoga state and gazes upon the devotees, with open eyes, only during this month, and shut in meditation for the rest of the year. Devotees, who seek solution to their various problems, including health issues, strongly believe that when they are in His presence, with utter faith in Him, He gracefully grants them their wishes. Perumal, who manifested as Nrisimha to immediately prove Prahlada's declared faith that Narayana resided everywhere, including the pillar near him, and would rush to the aid of His devotee, is worshipped here as one who heeds the prayers of His devotees.

INBRIEF

'Persistent and systemic challenges' undermine IBC'

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) has so far played a significant role in enhancing India's ease of doing business, but despite its successes, there are "persistent and systemic challenges" that undermine its optimal performance, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance has said. The panel said this in its 'Review of Working of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and Emerging Issues' report submitted to Parliament on Tuesday.

Wakefit Innovation Ltd. sets IPO price band at ₹185 to ₹195

Wakefit Innovation Ltd., a direct-to-consumer home furniture maker, set the price band for the ₹1288.89 crore public offer at ₹185 to ₹195 a share. The initial public offering (IPO) consists of a fresh issue of ₹377.1 crore and up to ₹911.8 crore of offer for sale at the highest price band. The issue can be subscribed in lots of 76 equity shares and multiples thereof. The issue opens for anchor bidding on December 5 and retail subscription between December 8 and December 10.

Sugar production looks up in current marketing season

Sugar production in the first two months of the current sugar marketing season (October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026) is at 41.08 lakh tones from 428 sugar mills. As many as 376 mills produced just 28.76 lakh tonnes last year for the same period. In Uttar Pradesh, sugar production has reached 13.97 lakh tonnes, higher by 1.17 lakh tonnes compared with last year and in Maharashtra, 170 sugar mills have produced 16.95 lakh tonnes.

DoT's WhatsApp SIM-binding mandate faces BIF pushback

DoT's order is "well-intentioned," but it raises "significant questions of jurisdiction, proportionality, and consumer impact," says the Forum

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

The Broadband India Forum (BIF) spoke out against the Department of Telecommunications (DoT)'s mandate last week for WhatsApp and similar apps to perform "SIM binding" and log out web-based instances every six hours.

BIF is an industry group which has WhatsApp and its parent firm Meta as members. Neither company has issued any statement on the mandate.

According to a BIF, the DoT's order, aimed at curbing fraudulent use of Indian numbers by people abroad who don't physically possess the Indian SIM with which their WhatsApp account is registered, was "well-intentioned," but it raised "significant questions of jurisdiction, proportionality, and consumer impact."

Arattai, the indigenous WhatsApp challenger developed by Zoho Corp., will comply with the directive, the application's global product head Jeri John said in a statement to *The Hindu*.

What's happening?: The Meta-owned communication platform is under government scrutiny for curbing fraudulent use. PTI

Maruti setting up 2,000 charging points for EVs, to launch e Vitara

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Maruti Suzuki announced the setting up of more than 2,000 exclusive charging points for its electric vehicles (EVs) across the country ahead of the launch of its first EV car, e Vitara.

The e Vitara, which was first unveiled during Bharat Mobility in January 2025 and is yet to be officially launched, will open for sales in 2026 and the bookings will start soon.

The automaker promises a certified range of up to 543 km for the e Vitara.

Maruti also said e Vitara received 5-star rating under the government's anti crash Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (NCAP).

Hisashi Takeuchi, managing director & CEO, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd., said the automaker had spent ₹250 crore to develop a network of charging points across 1,100 cities nationwide which includes the top 100 cities with high EV penetration.

Green way: Finland's Kimmo Lahdevirta with Maharashtra Minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Finland to hold road shows on circular economy in India

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

At a time when India is slated to host the World Circular Economy Forum next year (2026), Finland plans to hold road shows across major cities in India to highlight circular economy and the opportunities it will generate.

"India will host the next edition of World Circular Economy Forum next October. We want to spread awareness about circular economy not just as a waste management issue, but very much to move the discussion upstream to product design and production, to turn it into such a way that the product lifespan is better," Kimmo Lahdevirta, Finaland's Ambassador to India, told *The Hindu*.

'Create 10 million jobs'

"With a roadshow, we want to spread awareness about it in different parts of India," he said.

India's circular economy is expected to have a market value of $2 trillion and create 10 million jobs by the year 2050, as per the Government of India. Currently, the Centre's focus is on waste management and recycling. Finnish Innovation Fund SITRA said the opportunities lie beyond waste management in several sectors.

"It is hard to calculate circular economy, and put numbers to it but switching to a circular model could bring $4.5 trillion in economic benefits by 2030, cut emissions, create stable jobs and open new green markets, as per UNDP," said Mika Sulkinoja, senior lead at International Programmes for Circular Economy at SITRA, Finnish Innovation Fund.

"The way we look at it is, there is business potential everywhere. At present, over 70% of CEOs are interested in circular economy. They want to look at opportunities to add to value chain, to close the loop and to make sure supply chains are secure in today's international scenario."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	85,138	-0.59
US Dollar	89.96	-0.48
Gold	1,31,530	-1.25
Brent oil	62.84	-0.51

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2239.60	-22.40
Adani Ports	1518.10	-12.40
Apollo Hosp	7242.00	-45.50
Asian Paints	2954.40	86.80
Axis Bank	1258.00	-17.70
Bajaj Auto	9085.50	-10.50
Bajaj Finserv	2065.90	-15.90
Bajaj Finance	1025.50	4.40
Bharat Elec	413.05	-4.20
Bharti Airtel	2104.00	14.30
Cipla	1516.60	-6.50
Coal India	378.95	-0.70
Dr Reddys Lab	1275.20	15.10
Eicher Motors	7112.50	-13.00
Eternal Ltd.	300.55	-0.95
Grasim Ind	2735.00	3.50
HCL Tech	1635.50	-7.40
HDFC Bank	989.80	-12.30
HDFC Life	759.00	-7.75
Hindalco	806.85	-3.95
Hind Unilever	2477.80	13.30
ICICI Bank	1373.00	-17.10
IntGlobeAvi	5697.50	-96.50
Infosys	1561.00	-3.00
ITC	400.95	-3.30
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	304.85	0.10
JSW Steel	1162.00	-6.40
Kotak Bank	2142.40	-5.20
L&T	4030.50	-42.70
M&M	3716.50	-25.10
Maruti Suzuki	16239.00	142.00
Max Healthcare	1117.50	-7.90
NestleIndia	1258.90	-1.70
NTPC	328.60	1.50
ONGC	243.54	-1.29
PowerGrid Corp	267.45	-2.20
Reliance Ind	1546.30	-19.80
SBI Life	1981.50	9.90
State Bank	967.30	-5.80
Shriram Finance Ltd.	843.40	-8.15
Sun Pharma	1799.50	-7.90
TataConsumerProduct	1162.20	-1.60
Tata Steel	167.78	-0.85
TCS	3135.70	2.30
Tech Mahindra	1536.70	7.20
Titan	3885.80	-9.10
Tata Motors PV	361.75	-2.05
Trent Ltd.	4226.50	10.60
UltraTech Cement	11666.00	4.00
Wipro	250.17	-0.11

Fireside raises $253 million

REUTERS

India's Fireside Ventures has raised ₹22.65 billion (around $253 million) for its fourth fund, the venture capital firm said.

Transcending cloud finops to get value in the AI age

At a round table discussion held by *The Hindu* in partnership with IBM, IT leaders in industry speak on optimising cloud costs with Artificial Intelligence around the corner

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

At a recent round table in Delhi, hosted jointly by IBM and *The Hindu* Group, technology leaders discussed the shifts in thinking around cloud deployment costs, transitioning from a traditional view of finops (the financial subdiscipline of optimising cloud expenditure) to actually getting value out of deployments.

The theme for this roundtable, third edition of the AI@work series, was "From cost control to value creation: rethinking cloud visibility and automation," and it saw participation from technology and finance leaders from sectors like steel, fintech, PSUs, energy and SaaS.

Finops management

Some firms have outsourced finops entirely. "Our power generation company finops portion is more or less taken care of by SAP, and we're completely using SAP BEAMs," A.K. Patel, General Manager (IT-Communication) at NTPC Ltd. said. Biswadeep Sahoo, Head - Business Solutions (Technology) at Hero Fincorp, said that finops for his firm was "always driven with business outcome-based planning," and that this "itself is part of our infrastructure planning exercise."

"Cloud cost visibility is often treated as bill management," Suresh Vijayaraghavan, *The Hindu* Group's Chief Technology Officer said. "But in reality it can act as a strategic mirror to all of us, right? What does the business demand pattern look like? What type of innovation are we doing at speed? Where are the hidden inefficiencies?"

Mr. Vijayaraghavan pointed out that automation and AI are not simply cost-saving measures. "Automation and AI can free human capacity," he said, "but embedding intelligence into the infrastructure can enhance the efficiency of the whole infrastructure itself."

He cited research suggesting companies applying finops typically "uncover 10% to 20% of untapped cloud savings," with mature, holistic adopters sometimes seeing 20% to 30% reductions in spend. Moving to a holistic approach could therefore increase cloud spend savings, he said.

Hybrid cloud

Sanjay Mishra, Chief Digital and Information Officer at Jindal Stainless Steel, opened up on cloud costs. "Cloud has two components," he said. "One component is simply rack-and-stack your hardware, your infrastructure, which is instead of buying [hardware], you go and take in the cloud.

The second aspect is taking the services which are not available on the premises. Everybody has to be aware whether they are adopting cloud for the first or the second, because both have different business use cases."

Mr. Mishra said different motivations fuelled different approaches. "If I have an infrastructure need, which is constant for the next five years, it makes more sense for me to have my own infrastructure," he said. "We are taking a hybrid approach. Cloud for niche services and my on-prem infrastructure for my operations. I think this hybrid approach should continue when the organisation matures. If you are at the starting phase of your journey, you might go for cloud because it is easier."

Cloud vs. on-prem

Samit Shetty, Country Leader - Automation Platform, IBM India & South Asia, said that there was no tension between on-prem and cloud approaches, and most enterprises typically went with both.

"Industries have been kind of contemplating: should I be all on cloud or should I be all on-prem," he said. "From IBM's standpoint, we have been very clear that you can't be either all there or all here. The pendulum swings both ways. Hybrid is not going anywhere."

However, he said, the effectiveness of getting value from a cloud deployment depended on the level of preparedness of a migrating firm to adopt the appropriate mindset.

"When they moved to the cloud, they also carried, quote-unquote, the bad habits of on-prem onto cloud," Mr. Shetty said.

"You went to cloud expecting that the cost will come down drastically, only to realise that the bills are so high and you don't know what went wrong."

One "born-on-cloud" client, he said, assumed it was already optimised for the transition, and did not bother with looking into optimisation. "They said everything is fine, we are managing it very well," he said. The firm did an assessment over a couple weeks, he said, and "their eyes opened when they saw how much saving they could do just by optimising a few things, even as a cloud native firm. The tier of storage they had opted for, instances spun up in testing and never shut down that they are getting charged for... They thought they were optimised to the tee."

"The cloud cost is not just in terms of what am I spending," Mr. Shetty said, "but where is the cost getting wasted as well, and whether the cost I am incurring for a particular business is optimal."

Cloud value

Ankit Gupta, Head of Technology and Product for Business at Policybazaar, said that not all indicators of cloud costs were necessarily indicative of the value they were providing.

"Let us say we have made a good mobile application or web application," Mr. Gupta said. "But if it is not able to give the best customer experience in terms of speed and so on, then that particular infra, whether I am spending money or not spending, the application will be not of any use ... of course, we need to control the cost but not at the cost of the value that we are creating."

"What we have done in our organisation is that all the costs are associated with the applications," he said. "So, in case any application's cost goes high, it gives an alert that this particular application is getting a lot of cost. That can be rightly directed to that particular team. If applications are not mapped, then it is very difficult to find out which application is getting out of control."

With finance teams

Mr. Shetty said that much of finops dealt with negotiations between IT teams and finance teams, with the former padding estimates to get a comfortable expenditure headroom. "IT will come and say, I will buffer it by 30% so that I have enough money to play around with. Finance will say, cut down by 40%. This basically turns out into a fundamental disconnect in terms of trust."

Nav Goel, General Manager (Finance) at Indian Railway Finance Corporation, offered the view from the other side. "Generally IT heads would be giving requirement with a 20-30% buffer," he said. "The finance counterpart slashes it by 40%. So actually you are at 80% of your need generally. There is no situation wherein the thing you have asked for would be underutilised."

In government bodies and PSUs, he added, periodic mechanisms like the August budget review act as a de facto finops mechanism. "I would say the finance person here is acting as a kind of finops," he said, "because he has the requirement of the other departments as well, and he knows the requirement of IT."

Debananda Bera, Chief General Manager (Business Information System) at GAIL India Ltd., said that PSUs had to expend resources "judiciously, and there should always be a capping," and recommended that an estimate of using metered cloud and a flat-fee dedicated cloud should run side-by-side to give customers a more accurate cost estimate, as opposed to overspending on dedicated cloud they may not require. This kind of pay-per-use estimate was not available, he said, when starting out with cloud.

"Unfortunately we do not get the visibility initially as to how much will be the budget and a budget is very, very important for any organisation," Mr. Bera said.

Innovation budget

Prashant Bhatia, Architect - DevOps at Naviga, said that there needs to be enough upfront room for innovation and experimenting.

"One day an alert shoots up," he said. "'I have breached so much of my cost, what are we doing here? And the answer was, we are doing innovation."

It was important, he said, to "have the budget for the proof of concept or the innovation approved beforehand and have a kind of a minimum expectation from the POC. Build small and then you can always scale in cloud."

FinOps is "a shared responsibility between finance and the product and engineering teams," he said. "There are always alternatives" to expensive deployments, he added.

"Choose from many alternatives and then decide what is best for your use case."

Cloud, news industry

"When we started building out small AI applications for use within our company, we had the tendency to just make some applications, roll them out," recalled Nagaraj Nagabushanam, Vice President - Data and Analytics and Designated AI Officer at *The Hindu*. "Our workforce is hugely distributed. Journalists are great at communicating, asking questions, turning answers into stories.

"But if you talk to them about their workflow, they are notoriously reluctant to talk about it."

"I can go to a reporter and say, looks like you used this audio transcription tool fairly heavily. Can you tell me, did you use some or any of those transcripts to write your stories?

"We have had situations where a 50-dollar-a-month application has given us a much better business outcome than a 1,500-dollar application."

"Sometimes the value is sheer reduction of drudge work," he said. "You're opening up multiple people's time and effort into doing something else that is more productive."

"I think the biggest challenge I saw in cloud visibility is the bill of materials," Mr. Mishra said.

Cloud bill

"It is so complex that there is nobody who can decipher whether I should stop [a certain line item] or not. Even for very small infrastructure kind of storage if I need 512 GB storage, there might be 20 associated services which I will not be sure of. If I stop it, what is going to happen?"

"Suppose my critical service is running in that environment," he said. "I do not want to touch anything because I do not know. The cost for me might look very small, but I know it is going to multiply over time.

"So, okay, let it run. If I don't stop it, nothing is going to hurt me. I don't want to be the bad guy because somebody has started it."

Mr. Shetty said that this is exactly where finOps platforms and AI-based optimisation can help, by showing dependency graphs, likely "blast radius" and safe actions. "We call them 'no-brainer' activities," he said.

"Cost is saved, no downtime, no impact to business and SLAs are improved if not retained.

"The tool is currently capable of doing that automatically, but the trust in AI has to get built over a period of time."

Mr. Shetty said, "FinOps is about giving control to both the finance and the IT guys and allowing them to have a transparent, open conversation and not do guesstimates."

Please scan to watch the full video.

DOHA

Qatar says hopes to push Hamas, Israel to next talks phase 'very soon'

REUTERS

Gaza talks mediator Qatar said on Tuesday it hoped Israel and Hamas could be brought to a new phase of peace deal talks in the Palestinian territory following their October ceasefire. "We think that we should be pushing the parties to stage two very, very soon," Qatar Foreign Ministry spokesperson Majed al-Ansari said. AFP

LAHORE

Imran Khan is alive but subjected to 'mental torture', says sister Uzma

REUTERS

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan is alive but subjected to "mental torture in solitary confinement", his sister Dr. Uzma Khan said on Tuesday after meeting him at Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail. Upon her return, she also confirmed that Mr. Khan's health looks fine, the statement added. PTI

DHAKA

U.K. medical team to arrive in Dhaka as Zia remains critical

PTI

A team of medical experts from the U.K. will visit Bangladesh to assess the treatment of ailing former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, who continues to remain in a critical condition at a private hospital here, her personal physician said on Tuesday. The three-time Prime Minister was admitted to the private hospital on November 23. PTI

LONDON

Starmer says China poses national security threats; latter flays remark

AFP

Prime Minister Keir Starmer has warned that China poses "national security threats" to Britain, but defended his government's decision to step up engagement with the country. In a statement on Tuesday, the Chinese embassy in London criticised what it called Mr. Starmer's "groundless accusations". REUTERS

If Europe wants war with Russia, 'we are ready': Putin before talks

Russian President accuses European leaders of sabotaging peace efforts and blocking U.S. negotiations over Ukraine war; U.S. delegation brought a revised peace plan, following concerns that earlier version gave Moscow too many concessions

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

Peace bid: Vladimir Putin and Russian officials attend the talks with Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner at the Kremlin on Tuesday. AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday that Russia was "ready" for war if Europe seeks one, accusing the continent's leaders of trying to sabotage a deal on the Ukraine conflict before he met with U.S. envoys.

"We are not planning to go to war with Europe, but if Europe wants to and starts, we are ready right now," Mr. Putin told pressmen in Moscow.

"They have no peaceful agenda, they are on the side of war," he added, repeating his claim that European leaders were hindering United States' attempts to broker peace in Ukraine.

Meanwhile, top U.S. negotiators vying to end the war in Ukraine met with Mr. Putin on Tuesday in a high-stakes meeting happening as Moscow pressed battlefield advances.

Mr. Putin received Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner and U.S. special envoy Steve Witkoff in the Kremlin. The meeting is a crucial moment for Ukraine in what could be a fraught week following days of frantic diplomacy kicked off by a unilateral U.S. plan to bring peace, which has since been revised under pressure from Kyiv and its European backers.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Monday that any plan must actually end the war for good, and not just lead to a pause in the fighting that began with Moscow's offensive in February 2022.

Washington has said it is "optimistic" it can help end Europe's bloodiest conflict since the Second World War.

Mr. Kushner and Mr. Witkoff were to present Mr. Putin with the new version of U.S. plan, which has been hammered out after the initial version raised fears in Kyiv and elsewhere in Europe that it made too many concessions to Moscow.

Russian presidential aide Yuri Ushakov and the Kremlin's business envoy, Kirill Dmitriev, also took part in the meeting, according to a state TV broadcast.

After their Moscow visit, Mr. Kushner and Mr. Witkoff could go on to meet a Ukrainian delegation as soon as Wednesday, potentially in Brussels, a senior Kyiv official said.

BLA bomber targets Pak. paramilitary headquarters

Press Trust of India
KARACHI/PESHAWAR

Fierce defence: Three militants were shot dead near the entrance after an extended exchange of fire, security officials said. REUTERS

A female suicide bomber of the banned Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) blew herself up at the entrance of the headquarters of a paramilitary force in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, triggering a prolonged gunfight in which six militants were killed, security officials said on Tuesday.

The attacker detonated herself at the main entrance of the Frontier Corps (FC) headquarters in Nokundi town of Chagai district on Sunday night, the officials said.

The BLA later identified the bomber as Zinata Rafiq and released her photograph. Following the explosion, six militants attempted to storm the headquarters.

Three were shot dead near the entrance after an extended exchange of fire, while the remaining three managed to enter the compound before being encircled by FC personnel. The security officials said the three have been killed as well.

Separately, at least four persons, including North Waziristan Assistant Commissioner, and two policemen, were killed when militants ambushed his vehicle in Pakistan's northwestern Province Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tuesday, police said.

The attack in the Bannu district of the province, targeted a vehicle of Shah Waliullah, the assistant commissioner of North Waziristan.

Sudan's RSF 'takes control' of strategic West Kordofan town

Reuters
CAIRO

Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) said that it seized full control of Babanusa, a transport junction in the country's south, though its rival, the Sudanese army, disputed the claim.

In a statement on Monday, the RSF said its "liberation" of Babanusa in West Kordofan state – the latest frontline in the war in Sudan – came as it repelled "a surprise attack" by the Sudanese army in what it called "a clear violation of the humanitarian truce".

On Tuesday, the army denied that the RSF had taken the entire town, and accused its rivals of continuing attacks on Babanusa despite RSF commander Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo's announcement of a unilateral ceasefire.

The army dismissed the ceasefire declaration as a political tactic aimed at masking RSF movements and alleged foreign support.

'India took leading role in relief efforts in aftermath of Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka'

Press Trust of India
COLOMBO

In ruins: An aerial view of a residential house lying in a shattered state at the site of a landslide in Nuwara Eliya on Tuesday. AFP

India has taken a leading role in immediate emergency response efforts in the aftermath of Cyclone Ditwah that has killed more than 450 people and caused widespread devastation, President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's office said on Tuesday.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed heartfelt condolences to President Anura Kumara Dissanayake and reaffirmed that India stands firmly beside Sri Lanka and its people in this difficult hour," the President's office said.

Prime Minister Modi on Monday spoke to Mr. Dissanayake and assured him of continued support in the rehabilitation efforts across all regions impacted by Cyclone Ditwah.

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Modi expressed condolences for the loss of lives and devastation in Sri Lanka, and said the people of India stood in firm solidarity and support with the people of the island nation in this hour of need.

The Disaster Management Centre has confirmed at least 465 deaths and 366 missing till Tuesday in catastrophic floods and landslides caused by extreme weather conditions since November 16.

A whopping 14,66,615 people of 4,07,594 families have been affected.

Israeli forces kill four Palestinians in Gaza and West Bank

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Israeli forces on Tuesday killed a journalist and a man near a refugee camp in Gaza, health workers said, and shot dead two suspected Palestinian assailants in the West Bank wanted in a pair of attacks that wounded three Israelis.

It was the latest burst of violence in the Palestinian territories, fuelling concerns that unrest could spill over and undermine the fragile truce in Gaza.

The Gaza Health Ministry said that more than 350 Palestinians have been killed across the territory since a ceasefire on October 11 stopped the Israel-Hamas war. Israel's military did not immediately comment on either deaths, but has said that killings have often been in response to firing at their forces by militants.

Both Hamas and Israel have accused the other of breaking the terms of the ceasefire.

Sport

West Indies pacers restrict New Zealand

CRICKET

Agence France-Presse
CHRISTCHURCH

Greaves. AP

New Zealand reached 231 for nine at stumps on a rain-shortened day one of the first Test against the West Indies on Tuesday.

New Zealand tumbled from 94 for one to 148 for six on a bowler-friendly wicket after Kane Williamson was dismissed for 52, his 38th Test half-century.

Michael Bracewell and Nathan Smith arrested the slide with a 52-run stand for the seventh wicket. Smith eventually fell for 23 and Bracewell for 47.

After Matt Henry went for eight, Zak Foulkes and Jacob Duffy were both on four when bad light stopped play after 70 overs of a truncated day.

Kemar Roach (two for 47), Ojay Shields (two for 34) and Justin Greaves (two for 35) shared the wickets.

The scores: New Zealand 231/9 in 70 overs (Williamson 52, Bracewell 47) vs West Indies; **Toss:** WI.

Former England batter Robin Smith passes away

All class: Smith was one of England's most charismatic and popular players. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Former England batter Robin Smith passed away aged 62, English county side Hampshire announced on Tuesday. The South Africa-born Smith, who played 62 Tests between 1988 and 1996, died unexpectedly on Monday in Australia, where he lived, his family said.

"It is with the deepest and most profound sense of sadness and loss that we must announce the passing of Robin Arnold Smith, beloved father of Harrison and Margaux and cherished brother of Christopher," Smith's family said in a statement released by Hampshire Cricket. "Robin died unexpectedly at his South Perth apartment on Monday, 1st December. The cause of his death is at present unknown."

Smith scored 4,236 runs in 62 Tests, including nine centuries, at 43.67 and in 71 ODIs, he made 2,419 runs at 39.01

Smith, nicknamed the 'Judge', had recently met with the England Lions squad, England's second-tier side, in Perth ahead of the first Ashes Test at the invitation of coach Andrew Flintoff.

"Robin rose to fame as one of England's most charismatic and popular players," Smith's family said. "A brave and dashing batsman, he excelled both for Hampshire and his adopted country collecting legions of admirers and friends along the way."

Smith scored 4,236 Test runs for England, including nine centuries, at 43.67 and in 71 ODIs, he made 2,419 runs with four hundreds at 39.01.

Jacks replaces Wood; injured Khawaja ruled out of pink-ball Test

THE ASHES

Agencies
BRISBANE

Jacks. AFP

Off-spinning all-rounder Will Jacks has replaced the injured Mark Wood in the England side for the day-night second Ashes Test at the Gabba starting on Thursday.

Jacks was named in the side on Tuesday and will play his first Test for three years in the only change as England dispensed with the all-pace attack used in the first Test defeat in Perth.

The 27-year-old got the nod ahead of Shoaib Bashir for the pink-ball match to add more depth to the England batting.

Australia opener Usman Khawaja has been ruled out of the Brisbane Test with a back injury that curtailed his involvement in the first match.

England XI: Ben Duckett, Zak Crawley, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Ben Stokes (Capt.), Jamie Smith, Will Jacks, Gus Atkinson, Brydon Carse and Jofra Archer.

ALL FOR THE NEW RULE

'The older ball allows one to get some grip or reverse swing'

R. RAGU

India pacer Harshit Rana spoke about the new rule that comes into play after 34 overs, where the fielding side gets to operate with a ball of its choice. "After 34 overs, we always look for the slightly older ball. Everyone chooses the older one — it helps maintain control and allows you to get some grip or reverse (swing)."

NOT A BIG FACTOR

'Not depending on toss, but batting second is an advantage at times'

R. RAGU

Toss is never in your hands. But yes, sometimes batting second has an advantage. Still, it's not something we depend on. Everyone is focusing on continuing what best we can do on the field. We don't want to overthink — just back our strengths and execute the good things we did previously — Harshit Rana.

HUGE POTENTIAL

Brevis and Breetzke could serve SA for a long time, says Bavuma

R. RAGU

We're at a different stage in ODIs (as) compared to Tests. We may not have guys who go on to play over 250 games like India, but players like [Dewald] Brevis and Matthew Breetzke could get there over time. We want young players to get opportunities and see how well they fit into roles — South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma.

ANOTHER CHALLENGE

Bavuma expects dimensions of the Raipur stadium to play a big role

R. RAGU

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma believes the dimensions of the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium will play a big role. "It does look bigger — especially the square of the wicket. I'm sure the twos and threes will come into play more. But for bowlers, you'd want to use the longer boundaries to your advantage".

India eyes series win, SA looks to force a decider

The fine form of Rohit and Kohli augurs well for the Men in Blue; Rahul will hope to contribute again, both as skipper and batter; Bavuma boost for the Proteas in the must-win clash

SA IN INDIA

Tarun Shastry
RAIPUR

The JSCA International Stadium Complex in Ranchi was treated to a Rohit Sharma-Virat Kohli masterclass in the first ODI against South Africa on Sunday, a spectacle that carried India to a narrow 17-run win and a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. Now, with the action shifting to the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium here on Wednesday, the home side has an opportunity to seal the series.

The two former India captains turned back the clock, entertaining a packed house while firmly addressing any questions about their future. Their 136-run partnership for the second wicket – the duo's 20th century stand in ODIs – was a vintage exhibition of control and authority that sent the South Africans on an exhausting leather hunt. The assurance with which the two operated, their rhythm almost effortless, provided India with the perfect platform to set a daunting total.

Kohli was in majestic touch, threading drives through the off-side with precision and punishing anything in his arc down the ground.

Rohit, meanwhile, carried forward the imperious form he displayed in Sydney during the recent series against Australia. He unfurled his signature pulls, tackled the spinners confidently, and kept the runs flowing, steadily tightening the grip on the visitors. Their time in the middle, backed by immense experience and skill, felt like a timely injection of belief for a side still recovering from the drubbing in the Test series.

Equally encouraging for India was the composed leadership of stand-in captain K.L. Rahul, who made all the right calls and contributed with a mature innings. The new-ball pair of Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana struck early with disciplined lengths, rattling the Proteas' top-order while Prasidh Krishna chipped in with the key wicket of Corbin Bosch, who briefly threatened to pull off a heist.

Left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep was exceptional, finishing with a four-wicket haul that proved decisive in halting South Africa's charge and ensuring India stayed on top.

To their credit, the visitors refused to capitulate. After a disastrous start, their middle and lower-order counterpunched. Matthew Breetzke held the innings together while Tony de Zorzi and Dewald Brevis chipped in with valuable cameos before Marco Jansen, continuing his outstanding run across formats, smashed a blistering 70 off 39 balls to give his side a fighting chance.

Hogging the limelight: Rohit, seen with Gambhir, would be keen to continue his good run. R. RAGU

> Their inclusion [Rohit and Kohli's] definitely strengthens India. We've faced them for many years — some of us were still in school when they started
>
> **BAVUMA**
> South Africa skipper

Regular captain Temba Bavuma will back for the must-win clash and South Africa will fancy its chances of levelling the series.

As the focus shifts to Raipur, several questions linger. Will the pitch result in another run-fest? Can India ride the momentum and seal the series? Or will South Africa hit back to force a decider? The answers will unfold under the lights, but one thing is certain – both teams will be eager to stamp their authority in what promises to be a gripping contest.

The teams (from):
India: K.L. Rahul (Capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Kuldeep Yadav, Prasidh Krishna, Tilak Varma, Rishabh Pant and Nitish Kumar.
South Africa: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Ottneil Baartman, Corbin Bosch, Matthew Breetzke, Dewald Brevis, Nandre Burger, Quinton de Kock, Tony de Zorzi, Rubin Hermann, Keshav Maharaj, Marco Jansen, Aiden Markram, Lungi Ngidi, Ryan Rickelton and Prenelan Subrayen.
Match starts at 1.30 p.m.

Rohit, Kohli's support improves performance, says Harshit

Tarun Shastry
RAIPUR

South Africa was rocked early while chasing in the first ODI at Ranchi, largely due to a fiery opening spell from Harshit Rana.

The pacer, along with Arshdeep Singh, reduced the visitors to 11 for three inside the first five overs, laying a strong platform for tweaker Kuldeep Yadav to take control and seal the victory.

Addressing the media on the eve of the second ODI here, the lanky bowler reflected on his performance, the importance of staying focused on his work while shutting out outside noise, and the impact of having two stalwarts [Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli] in the dressing room – something he believes has significantly shaped his growth.

"Honestly, it's a big thing not just for me but for the whole team. When players with so much experience are around you – whether on the field or in the dressing room – the environment becomes very nice. They always tell youngsters that we can do better. That kind of support automatically improves performance," he said.

"They always motivate us, whether things go well or not. They guide us on what the next step should be, especially when you are under pressure on the field. The team is in a very happy and positive space," added the 24-year-old.

On dealing with social media pressures, Harshit was candid and honest.

"I just focus on what I need to do on the ground – my hard work and my processes. What happens outside doesn't matter. If I start listening to everything on social media, I won't be able to play cricket. So I try to avoid it as much as possible."

On bowling alongside Arshdeep and working with bowling coach Morne Morkel, Harshit said: "Morne has huge experience, and I talk to him often. Arshdeep helps me a lot in practice, too. They constantly guide me on what to do and how to improve."

Encore beckons? Kohli will be eager to delight one and all with yet another century. R. RAGU

Kohli to play for Delhi in Hazare Trophy

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

In line with the BCCI's stance that India's players should participate in domestic cricket when available, star batter Virat Kohli will take part in Delhi's Vijay Hazare Trophy campaign. The List A tournament is scheduled from December 24 to January 18.

Delhi's group stage matches will be held in Bengaluru.

"Kohli will be available to play for Delhi in the Vijay Hazare Trophy. He has confirmed his participation," DDCA president Rohan Jaitley told *The Hindu* on Tuesday.

With India facing New Zealand in three ODIs from January 11 to 18, the 37-year-old is likely to play the first few games of the domestic competition.

On Sunday, Kohli slammed his 52nd ODI century in India's 17-run win over South Africa in the first game in Ranchi. With the former captain now featuring solely in the 50-over format, the fact that he will have limited game time in the lead-up to the 2027 ODI World Cup has been a talking point.

After the win in Ranchi, Kohli, who now resides in London, said he has never been a big believer in a lot of preparation.

In January this year, Kohli played for Delhi in the Ranji Trophy for the first time in 12 years.

Kohli. R. RAGU

> Kohli has confirmed his participation
>
> **ROHAN JAITLEY**
> DDCA president

Five-star India blanks Switzerland, enters quarterfinals

HOCKEY

Anish Pathiyil
MADURAI

India blanked Switzerland 5-0 in a contest between two unbeaten teams of the FIH Junior Men's World Cup 2025 to secure the Pool-B top spot.

With nine points in three matches, head coach P.R. Sreejesh's side also secured a berth in the quarterfinals.

Manmeet Singh sent the packed crowd at the Madurai International Hockey Stadium into raptures, opening the scoring within two minutes after a botched clearance from the Swiss defence.

Manmeet scored his second with a deflection on the half turn, off a fast ground pass from Priyobarta Talem.

Sharda Nand Tiwari converted a penalty corner to ensure the Blue Colts went into the second quarter comfortably placed.

With willing runners across the baseline, the defence attempted intermittent scooped passes, but the tactic failed to yield results. Arshdeep Singh got onto the scoresheet late in the second period via a reverse hit with his back facing the goal to extend India's lead.

Switzerland came out after the half-time break with renewed intensity.

Goalkeeper Princedeep Singh was called into action, first with a strong kick and then with a full-length dive to push the ball away with his stick.

The custodian capped a strong quarter with a stunning penalty stroke save against Yannick Hug.

The final 15 minutes of play turned out to be a physical affair, and with the home side not at its fluent best, the door was open for an improbable comeback.

That hope was extinguished when Sharda Nand found the bottom left corner with his second penalty corner conversion of the day, sealing a 5-0 win.

Awaiting India in the final eight will be a Belgium side that scraped through as one of the best second-placed teams.

Earlier, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands advanced with dominant wins in their final league-stage encounters.

The results: In Madurai: Pool D: Spain 13 (Bruno Avila 5-pc, 23-pc, 47-pc & 58-pc, Andres Medina 7 & 27, Albert Serrahima 15, Nicolas Mustaros 37, Ton Moran 41, Josep Martin 44 & 59-pc, Aleix Bozal 54-pc, Pere Amat 55) bt Namibia 0; Belgium 10 (Lucas Balthazar 4-pc & 23-pc, Maximilian Langer 18, 25 & 59, Benjamin Thiery 28-pc, Mathias Francois 33, Jean Cloetens 50, Hugo Labouchere 53-pc Marin van Heel 56) bt Egypt 0.
Pool E: Netherlands 11 (Finn van Bijnen 21 & 35, Casper Hafkamp 27-pc, Joppe Wolbert 31-pc, Thies Bakker 36, Jens de Vuijst 39, Casper van der Veen 48, 53 & 54, Pepijn van der Valk 49, Jan van 't Land 56) bt Austria 0; England 3 (Henry Markham 4-pc, Michael Royden 36, Alex Chihota 57) bt Malaysia 1 (Azimuddin Kamaruddin 47-pc).
Pool B: India 5 (Manmeet Singh 2 & 11, Sharda Nand Tiwari 13-pc & 54-pc, Arshdeep Singh 28) bt Switzerland 0.
In Chennai: Pool F: France 3 (Tom Gaillard 6-ps, Gabin Lorrazuri 31, James Liddiard 37) bt Bangladesh 2 (Md. Abdullah 27, Amirul Islam 54-pc); Australia 3 (Duncan Jackson 16, Ian Grobbelaar 34, Daykin Stanger 52) bt South Korea 1 (Seunghan Son 20-pc).

Quick off the blocks: Manmeet's two early goals put India in a comfortable position. G. MOORTHY

The breakthrough: Jackson scores Australia's opening goal against Korea. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Australia finds itself playing for the 9 to 16 spots. Despite a 3-1 win over South Korea at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium that took its tally to six points in Pool F, the 1997 champion was undone by an inferior goal difference (-1) compared to other second-placed teams across the groups. France beat debutant Bangladesh to top the pool and confirm Australia's exit

Quarterfinal line-up
Dec 5: Spain vs. New Zealand (12.30 p.m.); France vs. Germany (3 p.m.); Netherlands vs. Argentina (5.30 p.m.); India vs. Belgium (8 p.m.).

INBRIEF

Messi's visit: promoters inspect Hyderabad venue

With Lionel Messi set to land here on December 13, the promoters of the GOAT Tour had a look at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium on Tuesday, the proposed venue of the GOAT Cup. Besides an exhibition match Messi is also set to conduct a football clinic for a few budding youngsters.

National champions Velavan and Anahat in quarterfinals

Velavan Senthilkumar and Anahat Singh cruised into the quarterfinals of the HCL Squash Indian Tour 4 in Chennai on Tuesday. Velavan dismantled Sri Lanka's Ravindu Laksiri 11-7, 11-8, 11-7, while Anahat eased past Tamara Holzbauerova (Czech Republic) 11-7, 11-7, 11-7 in the pre-quarterfinals.

ROUND-UP

Haneesh, Srinivas power Andhra

Haneesh Veera Reddy (114) and K.L. Srinivas (98) powered Andhra to 415 against Karnataka on the second day of their BCCI Cooch Behar Trophy under-19 match at Anantapur.

The scores: Andhra 415 in 122 overs (Haneesh Veera Reddy 114, K.L. Srinivas 98, Paramveer Singh Baryar 70, Anv Lohith 74, B.R. Rathan 4/80, Dhyaan Hiremath 3/120) vs. Karnataka 176/5 in 62 overs (Manikanth Shivanand 56, Sidharth Akhil 60 batting).

Young champs: Kaira and Atharva with their reward. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Arush to lead Karnataka

Arush Jain will lead Karnataka in the Vijay Merchant Trophy (u-16) at Raipur on December 7.

The squad: Arush Jain (Capt.) , Syaamantak Anirudh (vice-captain), Rohith Reddy, M. Rohith, Aditya Jha, J. Sukruth, Atharav Deshpande, Suvik Gill, Vikram, Samarth Kulkarni, Aaryansinh Chavda, S. Vidhat, Ashrith Reddy, Gokul, Eshan Manigandan, Niranjan Ashok; coach: Kunal Kapoor; bowling coach: Adithya Sagar; fielding coach: Justin Muthu.

Narrow victory for Duleep Cricketers

Duleep Cricketers edged out Sangam CA by one run in the KSCA Group I, Division IV league here.

The scores: Duleep Cricketers 179 in 45.2 overs (Narasimha Yenumula 43, J.S. Anand 36, Nihal Patil 5/47) bt Sangam CA 178 in 50 overs (S. Gowrav 33, Shri Teja 43, Roshan Kumar 4/36).

Young Pioneer 57 in 16.4 overs (Preetham Raj 3/16) lost to Elite Blues 61/1 in 10.1 overs (Nirmal Tejaswi 40 n.o.).

Zodiac 156 in 37 overs (Pavan Yadav 38, Abdul Bari 3/19, Vasanth Kumar 3/30) lost to Crescent (1) 153/3 in 21.5 overs (Rubesh Babu 33, Nagesh Nayaka 49 n.o.) (Target revised to 152 in 35 overs due to rain).

YFA SC 257/9 in 50 overs (Adarsh Hiremath 147, Gangaram 34, Sarveet Dubey 37 n.o., Avaneesh Poonacha 3/29) bt Dolphin Cricketers 186 in 41.3 overs (Sai Akhilesh 30, B.C. Rohan 56, Shiva Kumar 3/32) (Target revised to 247 in 40 overs due to rain).

City Cricketers (1) 216 in 44.4 overs (B.C. Vinay 88, S.J. Shashank 5/42) bt Merchants (2) 172 in 42 overs (Omkar Patil 40, S.J. Shashank 39, Himanth Raj 3/17, C.V. Chethan 3/39).

Jaidur Cricketers 168 in 37.5 overs (Jibin John 42, B.T. Sanju 46, Zahoor Faroqui 5/24) lost to Southern Cricketers 170/4 in 30.3 overs (Praveen Kumar 77, M. Abhishek 39).

Silky Town 172 in 43.5 overs (Mohammed Kashif 49, Pranav Kumar 3/23) lost to Victory 173/7 in 46.5 overs (S. Rahul 49, C. Manjunath 48, D.B. Kushmith 3/38).

Select Cricketers 109 in 35.4 overs (Vishal Kumar 41, C.B. Kumar 5/16) lost to Jeevanbhimanagar 110/3 in 20.4 overs (Aarav Bajaj 33).

BEL Colony Recreation Club 250/9 in 50 overs (Asgar Pasha 66, Manish Gowda 56, Mohammed Ajmal 33, T.S. Sujan 4/31) bt Huttons 155 in 45.5 overs (Ruchitaksh Indrekar 31, L. Vinith 3/18, V. Rohit 3/23).

Freelancers 180/9 in 50 overs (Santhosh 51, Pradeep Kumar 3/26) lost to Star SC 149/6 in 36.5 overs (M. Manjesh 53, Santhosh 3/25). (Target revised to 149 in 40 overs due to rain).

Roots FS posts win

Roots FS took out Sree Gajannana FC 2-1 in the BDFA 'A' division football league here on Tuesday.

The results: Roots FS bt Sree Gajannana FC 2-1; Stride FC bt AGORC FC 3-0; BTM FC drew with Sniper FC 3-3.

Atharva and Kaira triumph

Atharva Nawarange and Kaira Baliga emerged as the under-17 champions of the 27th Dr. M.S. Ramaiah memorial State ranking table tennis here.

The results (finals): Boys: Atharva Nawarange bt Gaurav Gowda 3-9, 9-11, 11-6, 11-5, 11-6. **Girls:** Kaira Baliga bt Himanshi Chowdhary 11-5, 11-9, 6-11, 11-9.

LIVE TELECAST

India vs South Africa: 2nd ODI, Star Sports 2 & JioHotstar, 1.30 p.m.

LaLiga: FanCode, 11.30 p.m.

New Zealand vs West Indies: 1st Test, day 3, Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 3.30 a.m. (Thursday).

Padikkal's pyrotechnics propel Karnataka to huge win over TN

Murasingh's all-round effort — an unbeaten 25 off 18 balls, and two for 19 in four overs — helps Tripura upset Delhi

SMAT

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
AHMEDABAD

Devdutt Padikkal smashed a scintillating unbeaten 102 (46b, 10x4, 6x6) to propel Karnataka to its second-highest total of 245 for three, setting up a thumping 145-run victory over Tamil Nadu in their Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Elite Group-D fourth-round clash at the Narendra Modi Stadium B-Ground here on Tuesday.

The left-hander completed his fourth T20 hundred in style – a 45-ball onslaught sealed with a straight six off R. Rajkumar on the penultimate ball of Karnataka's innings.

If his knock had a central target, it was T. Natarajan. Padikkal plundered 45 from just 17 balls off the left-arm seamer, peppering him with four fours and three towering sixes. In a hundred laced with intent, the assault on Natarajan became the soundtrack.

Padikkal didn't bother settling in.

His first touch of the ball was violence in the guise of timing – a flick to midwicket off Natarajan that sailed out of the ground for a six. When Natarajan missed his yorkers, Padikkal sent him straight back over long-off and then flicked him over square-leg for two more sixes.

When the length shifted short, Padikkal shifted modes – helping one over the keeper, pulling another to square leg, and guiding a third past short third man, all for fours. He even found the cover boundary with a rasping carve for good measure.

Under the weight of a big chase, Tamil Nadu crumbled. Leg-spinner Shreyas Gopal drew opener Amith Sathvik forward to be stumped, had Jagadeesan pull straight to long-on, and R. Rajkumar hole out to long-off.

Fellow leg-spinner Pravin Dubey had Sai Kishore caught-and-bowled, TN skipper Varun Chakaravarthy hit straight to deep midwicket, and Natarajan offer a catch to long-off.

Later in the day, skipper Manisankar Murasingh's all-round effort – an unbeaten 25 off 18 balls, and two for 19 in four overs – helped Tripura clinch an upset 12-run win over Delhi.

He provided a late flourish with the bat.

With the ball, the medium-pacer struck early, removing the dangerous Priyansh Arya (8).

In the 19th over, he had Tejasvi Dahiya (23) mistime a pull off.

Medium-pacer Indrajit Debnath then defended 20 in the last over.

Swashbuckling: Padikkal's 10 boundaries and six maximums knocked the wind out of Tamil Nadu. VIJAY SONEJI

SYED MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY — TUESDAY'S SCORES

Elite: Group A (Lucknow):
Odisha 135/8 in 20 overs (Biplab Samantaray 61, Ajay Mandal 4/25) bt Chhattisgarh 108 in 19.4 overs (Sanjeet Desai 33, Amandeep Khare 46, Rajesh Mohanty 5/21).

Railways 167/7 in 20 overs (Shivam Chaudhary 32, Upendra Yadav 55, Ravi Singh 49, Satyanarayana 3/30) lost to Andhra 173/5 in 19.3 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 78, S.D.N.V. Prasad 39 n.o.).

Mumbai 220/4 in 20 overs (Ajinkya Rahane 42, Sarfaraz Khan 100 n.o.) bt Assam 122 in 19.1 overs (Sibsankar Roy 41, Shardul Thakur 5/23).

Kerala 164 in 19.2 overs (Rohan Kunnummal 58, Vishnu Vinod 65, Yash Thakur 5/16, Adhyayan Daga 3/22) lost to Vidarbha 165/4 in 18.3 overs (Atharva Taide 54).

Group B (Kolkata): Bihar 176/3 in 20 overs (Vaibhav Suryavanshi 108 n.o.) lost to Maharashtra 182/7 in 19.1 overs (Prithvi Shaw 66, Niraj Joshi 30).

Jammu & Kashmir 192 in 20 overs (Shubham Khajuria 43, Yawer Hassan 57) bt Chandigarh 163/7 in 20 overs (Manan Vohra 32, Arjun Azad 38, Gaurav Puri 39).

Madhya Pradesh 170/6 in 20 overs (Harpreet Singh Bhatia 80 n.o., Aniket Verma 34, Arjun Tendulkar 3/36) lost to Goa 171/3 in 18.3 overs (Abhinav Tejrana 55, Suyash Prabhudesai 75 n.o.).

Uttar Pradesh 127 in 19.2 overs (Madhav Kaushik, Rakshann Readi 3/31, Tanay Thyagarajan 3/29) lost to Hyderabad 129/7 in 17.1 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 43, Vipraj Nigam 3/20).

Group C (Hyderabad): Punjab 222/8 in 20 overs (Abhishek Sharma 50, Anmolpreet Singh 69, Naman Dhir 39, Raj Limbani 3/36) lost to Baroda 224/3 in 19.1 overs (Vishnu Solakni 43 Shashwat Rawat 31, Shivalik Sharma 47 retd. out, Hardik Pandya 77 n.o.).

Suryavanshi became the youngest centurion in the tournament. DEBASISH BHADURI

Himachal Pradesh 208/5 in 20 overs (Ekant Sen 89, Pukhraj Mann 79, Shahbaz Ahmed 3/36) lost to Bengal 212/5 in 18.4 overs (Abishek Porel 41, Karan Lal 113).

Pondicherry 83 in 13.1 overs (Japagnya Bhatt 3/17, Ravi Bishnoi 3/13) lost to Gujarat 84/1 in 9 overs (Aarya Desai 53 n.o.).

Services 157/7 in 20 overs (Vineet Dhankhar 36, Nakul Sharma 57) lost to Haryana160/4 in 19 overs (Ankit Kumar 78 n.o.).

Group D (Ahmedabad):
Karnataka 245/3 in 20 overs (B.R. Sharath 53, Devdutt Padikkal 102 n.o., R. Smaran 46 n.o.) bt Tamil Nadu 100 in 14.2 overs (Shreyas Gopal 3/21, Pravin Dubey 3/15).

Tripura 157/5 in 20 overs bt Delhi 145/8 in 20 overs (Nitish Rana 45).

Jharkhand 209/8 in 20 overs (Ishan Kishan 93, Chetan Sakariya 3/42) bt Saurashtra 125 in 15.1 overs (Prerak Mankad 39, Anukul Roy 3/25).

Rajasthan 193/8 in 20 overs (Deepak Hooda 90 n.o., Rajan Kumar 4/37) bt Uttarakhand 120 in 18 overs (Manav Suthar 3/21, Ashok Sharma 4/16).

It was important that some of us stepped up and helped the team win: Padikkal

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
AHMEDABAD

Devdutt Padikkal, who hammered an unbeaten 46-ball 102 in Karnataka's 145-run win over Tamil Nadu in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Elite Group-D fourth-round clash here on Tuesday, said he felt the need for him to step up and contribute to the team's win.

"We hadn't played good enough cricket in this tournament so far. So, it was important that some of us stepped up and helped the team win. Whenever I have played in this ground (Narendra Modi Stadium B-Ground), it's always been a high-scoring game. It's a red-soil wicket. So, it always has that extra bounce, and it's suitable for T20 cricket. I really enjoyed (batting on) it," he said.

Having been part of the India Test squad for the recent two-match series against South Africa, Padikkal returned to play for Karnataka only in the second round.

Talking about his preparation for this T20 season, the 25-year-old said: "After the IPL, there were things that I wanted to work on and things that I had in mind to really try and add to my game coming into the Mushtaq Ali (Trophy). But obviously, there wasn't much time to practise it on the ground.

"At the same time, mentally, I have been trying to figure out certain things and trying to understand what I can do better from last season. So, that's why, coming into the white-ball format, I knew there were certain plans that I wanted to execute, and I'm happy that I did it today.

"I had a good start to the last IPL, and I wanted to continue that momentum and try and gather those thoughts back again. Because, it's easy to forget it and move on.

"It's important that I took that momentum and form from the IPL to the Mushtaq Ali (Trophy) as well."

IPL auction — Venkatesh, Bishnoi opt for highest base price, Maxwell withdraws

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Venkatesh Iyer and Ravi Bishnoi – two of the most expensive Indian players released ahead of the 2026 Indian Premier League season – have entered the forthcoming player auction with the highest base price bracket of ₹2 crore.

The two are the only Indian names listed in the top category among the 1,355 registered players, which includes 1,062 Indian cricketers. The registration window closed on November 30, after which the IPL shared the provisional list with franchises.

Venkatesh, bought for ₹23.75 crore, was released by Kolkata Knight Riders, while Bishnoi – retained last year for ₹11 crore – was let go by Lucknow Super Giants. Alongside them, 43 overseas players, including Australian all-rounder Cameron Green, have opted for the highest base price.

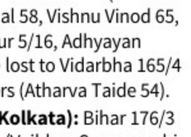
Cricketers from 13 countries have entered the auction pool this year, including players from Italy, who recently qualified for the 2026 T20 World Cup.

A maximum of 77 players, including 31 overseas, can be signed during the Dec. 16 auction in Abu Dhabi.

Australia's Glenn Maxwell has formally withdrawn from IPL, stepping away after more than a decade in the league.

In a social media post, Maxwell said: "After many unforgettable seasons in IPL, I've decided not to put my name into the auction this year... The IPL has shaped me as a cricketer and a person. The memories and the passion of Indian fans will stay with me forever."

Sorry, but the captain's apology is now part of the game



BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Captains apologising for team failures is approaching the status of a cliché in the modern game. It is undoubtedly a noble gesture, this acceptance of responsibility. It is both theatre and therapy.

It is good PR, and a way of restoring the bond between team and fan, a reassurance that disappointment is shared, and nobody hurts alone.

Following England's surrender in the opening Test of the Ashes series, skipper Ben Stokes said, "I could have been a lot better as captain. I wasn't as clear as I normally am." In India, Rishabh Pant said after losing to South Africa, "Sorry we couldn't live up to expectations this time... we will work hard, regroup, refocus and reset to come back stronger and better as a team and individuals."

The captain's apology, like the switch hit or data analysis, is an aspect of contemporary cricket. England skipper Douglas Jardine was unrepentant after the Bodyline series in 1932-33, while his fast bowler Harold Larwood was asked to apologise by his cricket board.

He didn't, saying he was following his captain's orders (as an aside, this is an example of cricket's class system where batters are the aristocrats and bowlers the plebeians).

It is not unusual for defeated captains and players to feel they have let down their supporters, and resolve to do better the next time. This is human nature. Some articulate their thoughts, others save it for their memoir where time and ghostwriters allow them to settle on a happy choice of words.

Get it right

Nothing is permanent in sport. Not form or fortune, or indeed public affection. A captain who apologises too often becomes a caricature. One who refuses to apologise at all becomes a villain while one who apologises just enough is mythologised for taking responsibility. Captains have to get the 'just enough' right.

The more frequently captains apologise, however, the less we expect them to actually mean it.

We subject the apology to the kind of analysis otherwise reserved for the captain's footwork at the crease or his delivery stride. Was the tone suitably sombre? Did the captain place the burden of failure on his own shoulders while subtly suggesting that the bowlers might want to learn where the stumps are or the batters where their feet ought to be?

Will the apology soon become performative art, like those interviews where bowlers say profound things like putting the ball in the right areas? A few more apologising captains and we will get there, even if most fans can sniff out a merely ritual apology.

Do apologies actually change anything? The fan is usually willing to meet a captain halfway and forgive him. After all, anything else would be churlish. But in recent years, the apology is slipping from admission to routine, from candour to necessity. That's not to say captains don't feel bad or responsible after a defeat.

Of course they do. And sometimes they break down publicly (most famously the Australian captain Kim Hughes before he announced his retirement in the middle of a series), or more often privately in the dressing room or at home.

Cultural housekeeping

Every captain who, after a defeat, apologises on television or in newspaper interviews or on social media (like Pant) is not speaking just to the present.

Past collapses, overheated expectations, and a fan culture that swings between devotion and outrage are all rolled into what he says. Here, the apology is less an expression of personal guilt and more an act of cultural housekeeping – clearing the emotional debris so that everyone can move on to the next match without drowning in unresolved disappointment.

In the end, the apology is neither a moral requirement nor a PR necessity. It is simply the price of leadership in a world that craves certainty, that wants someone to take responsibility in sport because there is so little happening elsewhere in politics or business.

Sport is always making up for what we lack in real life. The team may fail together, but the captain must fall alone.

It is lonely at the top, and gets lonelier when this happens. The captain needs to know that fans won't turn away.

An apology then is the bridge to empathy and reconnection.

ADVERTISEMENT

AYODHYA RISES

A new era of faith, development & global recognition

A NEW ERA BEGINS

"The grand temple of Lord Shri Ram represents the faith, honor, and self-respect of 1.4 billion Indians."

- **Yogi Adityanath**, Chief Minister, U.P.

- **Tourism boom**
- **Massive infrastructure push**
- **Rising economic contribution**

Ayodhya has entered a transformational era where faith, heritage, and development converge. The historic flag hoisting atop the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple marks the beginning of a new epoch, one that blends spiritual resurgence with global economic significance

TOURISM GROWTH

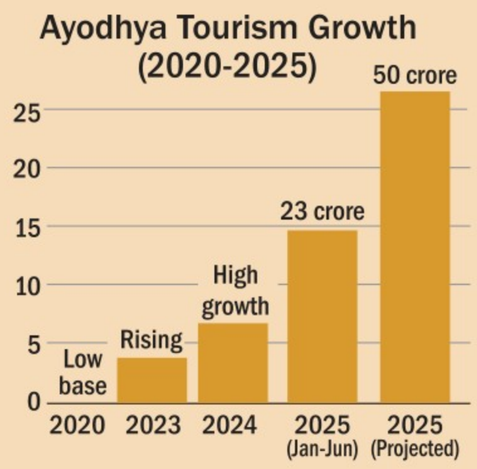
Unprecedented tourism boom in 2025

Massive Footfall Growth

- 23 crore visitors between January–June 2025
- Expected to reach 50 crore by year-end
- Visitors arriving from USA, Europe, Russia, and across India

Impact on Hospitality

- Hotels earning ₹40,000–50,000 per day
- International-standard tourism infrastructure
- Rising demand for rooms, restaurants, and allied services



"Ayodhya is now emerging as the global epicenter of cultural celebration."
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

AYODHYA BRAND GOES GLOBAL

- Global media coverage after flag hoisting
- Positioned among the world's top spiritual destinations
- A model city showcasing India's cultural resurgence

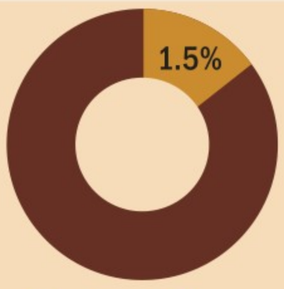
GLOBAL FOOTFALL TO AYODHYA

"The saffron flag symbolizes the eternal light of righteousness and the timeless ideals of Ramrajya."
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Ayodhya emerges as a growth engine for Uttar Pradesh

- Ayodhya contributes 1.5% to UP's GSDP
- Projected annual turnover: ₹4 lakh crore in coming years
- Tourism-driven businesses witness unprecedented growth



Ayodhya's Share in UP GSDP

World-class infrastructure redefining Ayodhya

- International Airport (30 flights daily)
- Modern railway station
- Upgraded bus terminals
- Solar & smart-city systems
- Rampath, Dharmapath, Bhaktipath
- 84 Kosi Parikrama

"Development and heritage now move hand in hand, enabling India to rise to new heights."
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

HERITAGE & SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

Centuries of faith, realized today

Faith endures
A dream realized

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath highlighted the unwavering devotion behind the Ram Temple dream:

"Dynasties and generations changed, but our faith remained constant."

He praised the sacrifices of millions and the commitment of organizations like the RSS whose resolve: **"Ram Lalla hum aayenge... Mandir wahin banayenge"** kept the movement alive.

"Ayodhya is now the global epicenter of cultural celebration."
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Ayodhya: The heartbeat of a Viksit Bharat

With its majestic temple, modern infrastructure, and booming economy, Ayodhya is not just reclaiming its ancient glory, it is shaping India's future. The city stands as a living testament to what unwavering faith, dedicated governance, and collective aspiration can achieve.

"Ayodhya has entered a new era, one that harmonizes heritage with modernity."
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy renamed as Centre for Badminton Excellence

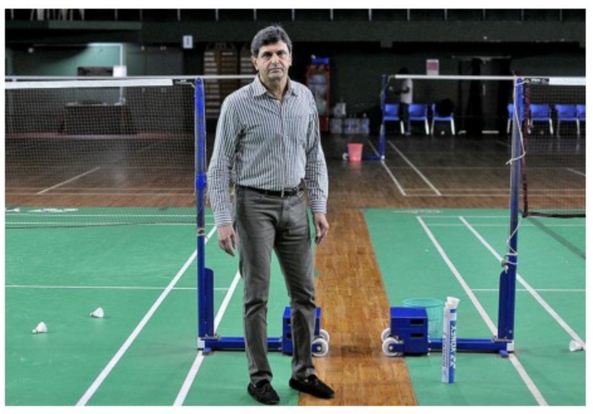
With the legendary shuttler focusing his energies on the Padukone School of Badminton, a venture with daughter Deepika, Vimal and Vivek will be fully in charge of the CBE

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

After more than three decades since inception, the famous Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy no longer carries the name of the legendary shuttler, who won the 1980 All England title to mark a watershed moment in Indian sporting history.

From October 1, one of India's most famous badminton centres, where the likes of P. Gopichand and Saina Nehwal once trained and now P.V. Sindhu and Lakshya Sen continue to spruce up their games, has been re-christened Centre for Badminton Excellence (CBE) after Padukone decided to step down.

Founded in 1994 by the trio of Padukone, former National champion and Dronacharya awardee U. Vimal Kumar, and industrialist and sports promoter Vivek Kumar, the erstwhile PPBA trained India's elite and was one of the country's National badminton centres.



Moving on: The rechristening happened on October 1 once Padukone decided to step down from the PPBA. FILE PHOTO

With Padukone now focusing his energies on the Padukone School of Badminton (PSB), an entrepreneurial venture with daughter Deepika, Vimal and Vivek will be fully in charge of the CBE.

The sprawling Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence on the city's outskirts, which housed the erstwhile PPBA, will now have both the CBE and a unit of the PSB under one roof.

"Prakash had been indicating it for a while and he wanted to move away from the excellence side towards school training," Vimal told *The Hindu* on Tuesday.

"But the players, the coaches all remain the same. It is a bit nostalgic for me. We were among the first private academies to be set up in 1994. We just named it after Prakash because no other name was required.

"We have grown a lot since then and have better facilities. Vivek has been of excellent support. Our sponsors, Infosys Foundation, continue to be the same. Our academy was never a commercial program, and we are committed to training India's best," Vimal added.

Vardy fires Cremonese past a high-flying Bologna

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
MILAN

Jamie Vardy struck his first brace in Serie A on Monday as Cremonese claimed a stunning 3-1 win at Bologna and the veteran forward continued his late-career adventure in Italy.

Former Leicester City and England frontman Vardy rolled back the years with two classic striker's goals either side of half-time as promoted Cremonese, 11th on 17 points, inflicted a first home defeat of the season on its high-flying opponent.

Bologna would have gone a point behind the division's leading pair AC Milan and Napoli with a win but it was 38-year-old Vardy who took the glory.

Cremonese was already leading through Martin Payero's 31st minute effort when Vardy struck.

The results: Serie A: Bologna 1 (Orsolini 45+3-pen) lost to Cremonese 3 (Payero 31, Vardy 35, 50). **LaLiga:** Rayo Vallecano 1 (Mendy 37) drew with Valencia 1 (Diego Lopez 64).

Vardy. FILE PHOTO: AFP

Karnataka Public Works Department
Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, PRAMC, PWD, Bengaluru-560001
No.: EIC/PWD/05/PRAMC/2025-26 Date: 01.12.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER
The Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD on behalf of Governor of Karnataka, invites Short-Term Tender for Seven Building works one each in Koppala, Vijayapura, Chamarajanagara, Hassan, Kalaburagi, Chikkaballapura & Uttara Kannada Districts. Further details can be obtained from Karnataka KPPP Portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from **02.12.2025, 05:30 PM** onwards.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/LC/4148/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
BMTC, TTMC 'B' Block, (Above Bus Stand), 4th Floor, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027. Ph : 080-22226627 / 6628, Fax : 080-22226630, E-Mail : dultbangalore@gmail.com, dult@karnataka.gov.in
No: DULT-ADMOCARE(HSTA)/1/2025/1005 Date:02.12.2025
JOB NOTIFICATION
The Directorate of Urban Land Transport intends to appoint qualified professional for various positions on a contract basis at its Bengaluru office. Interested candidates can visit https://dult.karnataka.gov.in/59/careers/en for more details and apply.
Sd/- Joint Director (Admin)
Directorate of Urban Land Transport
Urban Development Department.
DIPR/CP/4159/SHIRDI SAI/2025-26

MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION & G.W.D DIVISION, TUMKUR
Ref No.14/2025-26 KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4 (TWO COVER SYSTEM) KPP Portal DATE :29.11.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFFICATION No;14/ 2025-26 Dated 295.11.2025
On behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of State of Karnataka, as per K.T.P.P act with latest amendments, Item wise "KPPP" Portal tenders are invited for the works mentioned under H/A: 4702 Anicut and pickup, 4702-MOT Pradhana and 4702-LIS pradhana works from the eligible contractors of suitable category registered under KPWD. Tender publishing details are as given below.
1. Tender will be published through KPP Portal on: Dated: 01-12-2025 at 16.00 Hours. 2. Last date of queries on Dated: 06-12-2025 at 11.30 Hours. 3. Last date for Receipt of completed tenders through KPP portal may be uploaded before 17.00 Hours on Dated: 10-12-2025. 4. Technical Bid will be opened on Dated: 11-12-2025 at 17.05 Hours. 5. Financial Bid will be opened on Dated: 12-12-2025 at 17.10 Hours. For further details, visit Kpp portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/or from the office undersigned, on working days. If the office happens to be closed on dates above as specified, the next working day at the same time and venue will be considered.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, M.I & G.W.D Division, Tumkur
DIPR/TUM/359/KSMCA/2025-26

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
No. 16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-52.
Ph: 22268677/78/79, Fax: 080-22268667
e-mail : kerc-ka@nic.in website : www.kerc.karnataka.gov.in
No. KERC/ DF/DSM/2025-26/1234 Dated: 02.12.2025
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Sub: Draft Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission [Framework for Demand Flexibility (DF) / Demand Side Management (DSM)] Regulations, 2025. -Reg.
The draft Regulations on the above subject was published in the Official Gazette of Karnataka on **13.10.2025** and the same is also made available on KERC's website **https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in.**
The Commission will hold a Public Hearing in the matter on **19.12.2025 at 3.00 p.m. on Friday,** in the Court Hall of the Commission at First Floor, No. 16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru-560052. Interested persons are requested to attend the Public Hearing and submit their views/ comments/suggestions, before the Commission.
Sd/- Secretary, KERC, Bengaluru-52.
DIPR/DD-CP/4146/KSMCA/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)
(Through KPP Portal only)
Tenders are invited through KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works:
SHARAVATHY HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT
(1) No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2198. Date:21.11.2025 for **"Supply of 321 pairs Industrial safety shoes for Employees of Sharavathy Valley Project Power Houses including Shiva & Shimsha Power Houses, KPCL, Jogfalls-577 435".** EMD: **Rs.17,734/-. (2)** No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2199. Date:21.11.2025 for **"Supply of Various Types of Bearings required for Sharavathy Valley Projects/Power Houses, KPCL Jogfalls-577 435".** EMD: **Rs. 7,107/-. (3)** No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2205. Date:25.11.2025 for **"Supply of Various types of Copper and Aluminium cables required for Sharavathy Valley Project Power Houses, KPCL, Jogfalls-577 435".** EMD: **Rs.23,566/-. (4)** No.: KPCL/2025-26/IND2208. Date:25.11.2025 for **"Supply of HRC Fuses, Conduit pipes and Thermoplastic box required for Sharavathy Valley Projects Power Houses, KPCL, Jogfalls-577 435".** EMD: **Rs.2,812/-.** Last date and time for receipt of tenders for **Sl. No. 01 & 02** is on date:**09.12.2025 up to 16.30 Hrs.** Last date and time for receipt of tenders for **Sl. No.03 & 04** is on date:**12.12.2025 up to 16.30 Hrs.** All relevant details of the bids are available in the above mentioned e-portal. Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (MSP)J, KPCL, Jogfalls-577435, Shivamogga Dist., Mob: 9449598847, e-mail: eemspj@gmail.com**
VARAHI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT
(5) No.KPCL/2025-26/IND2192 Date:26.11.2025 Name of work: **Supply of 3 Phase 5 KVA Inverter to VHEP, Hosangadi-576 282.** EMD: **Rs. 4,425/-** Last date and time for receipt of completed bids: **13.12.2025 up to 16:30 Hrs. (6)** No. KPCL/2025-26/IND2193 Date: 27.11.2025 Name of work: **Supply of Air Pre filter for AHU to VHEP, Hosangadi-576 282.** EMD: **Rs. 2,856/-** Last date and time for receipt of completed bids: **13.12.2025 up to 16:30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (MSP)H, VHEP, KPCL, Hosangadi-576 282, Kundapur (T), Udupi (D), Karnataka. Phone/Mobile:+91-8259-288643/+91-9448182618/ Helpdesk: 080-2501216/25501227. (7)** No. KPCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT 3730 Date:25.11.2025 Name of work: **Providing chain link fencing around the Recreation Club & Shuttle Court Buildings at Masthikatte Colony (Phase-II)".** Amount put to tender: **Rs. 6.95 Lakhs (excluding GST).** EMD: **Rs. 17,375/-.** Last date for tender submission: **10.12.2025 up to 4:00 Hrs.** Further details can be obtained from **Executive Engineer (Civil), Masthikatte, Hosanagara, Shivamogga District. through Phone No.9449598842 during office hours.**